



STATE OF NEVADA

DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES (DCFS) - JUVENILE JUSTICE SERVICES

RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES REPORT/ASSESSMENT AND ACTION PLAN FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2021

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act

May 9, 2022

Prepared By:
Leslie Bittleston, MSQA
Social Services Chief/Juvenile Justice Specialist
Division of Child and Family Services
4126 Technology Way 3rd Floor
Carson City, NV 89706

INTRODUCTION

The Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP Act) was created in 1974 and expanded in 2002 to include the Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Requirement. The JJDP Act established four core requirements with which participating states and territories must comply to receive Title II Formula grants under the JJDP Act. The JJDP Act was reauthorized in December of 2018 and renamed the Juvenile Justice Reform Act (JJRA). This reauthorization also changed the name of disproportional minority contact to racial and ethnic disparities (RED). This report will address one of those core requirements, which is the reduction of racial and ethnic disparities (RED) with the juvenile justice system.

Racial and ethnic disparities is the disproportionate number of minority youth who encounter the juvenile justice system. States participating in the JJRA, and the Formula Grant program are required to address juvenile delinquency prevention and system improvement efforts to reduce, without establishing or requiring numerical standards or quotas, the overrepresentation of minority youth in the nation's juvenile justice system.

This report will examine racial and ethnic disparity at several contact points within the State of Nevada juvenile justice system. The entity responsible for this work is the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS). Data is collected over a twelve-month period and provided to the DCFS for analysis. Nevada consists of seventeen (17) counties and all counties have provided data.

For the purposes of this report, black youth are defined as youth whose race is African American of non-Hispanic origin. Hispanic youth is defined as youth of Hispanic origin, and white youth is defined as Caucasian of non-Hispanic origin.

SUMMARY PAGE – NEVADA SYSTEM OVERVIEW

Based on statewide data for the 2021 Compliance Year.

The youth population in Nevada ages Zero – 17 was 697,280.

- 9,755 youth were referred to the Juvenile Justice System, which is 1.3 percent of the total youth population.
 - 65.0 percent of those referrals were males.
 - 58.52 percent were minorities.
 - 29.19 percent of total referrals were diverted.
- 4,320 youth were arrested.
- 2,534 youth were placed in secure detention.
- 174 youth were placed in a state operated juvenile correctional facility (prison).
- 61 youth were certified as an adult and tried in an adult criminal court.

Racial and ethnic disparities are seen throughout the juvenile justice system, but the disparity widens as youth move deeper into the system.

DATA COLLECTION

What is meant by the term “contact?” Federal law requires data to be collected at multiple points of contact within the juvenile justice system, including arrest, referral to court, diversion, secure detention, petition, delinquent findings, probation, confinement to secure facilities, and certification to adult criminal court.

The data management system in Nevada is fragmented. Some of the state’s data are held in various locations such as local police stations, county probation departments, juvenile courts, and state juvenile corrections. While the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) is the state agency, it does not have administrative or operational authority over the seventeen counties in the State of Nevada. It is not possible for DCFS to confirm whether the data provided in this report is complete or accurate. However, DCFS does have good working relationships with the seventeen counties and believes the counties provide the best data available to DCFS for the analysis used in this report.

DCFS collects data on status offenders and youth within adult jails/lockups monthly. This data collection is separate from the annual juvenile crime data provided by the counties. Status offender data is received monthly from the seven-county operated juvenile detention facilities. DCFS relies on adult jails to report the number of youths within their facilities monthly as well. This data is partially verified during on site compliance visits of between 10 and 33 percent of these facilities annually (based on available staff resources).

CONTACT POINTS AND DEFINITIONS

Nevada utilizes the following contact points and definitions in assessing Nevada's disproportionate minority contact. Data is collected for each measure by gender and by race.

Referral:	Referral is when a police report or any report is received. Some may lead to an arrest, and some may not.
Referral Source:	Where are the referrals coming from?
Arrest:	<p>Arrest is when a youth is booked on probable cause. This may be the same number as referrals and/or secure detention in some areas. Arrest data is broken down further in the following categories.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Poverty Level○ Household Composition○ Firearm Possession during a crime○ Gender Identity
Re-Arrest:	This is considered performance measure number one for the state. It compares the youth arrested in the previous fiscal year with the current fiscal year. Note: Youth specific.
Diversion:	This can be informal probation, other informal activities, or a diversion by the juvenile court. Diversions are broken down by felony diversions, gross misdemeanor diversions and misdemeanor diversions.
Secure Detention:	Youth placed in a county juvenile detention facility, or a county adult jail based on a charge and booking. Detention does NOT include youth held in shelters, group homes, or other non-secure facilities.
Petitioned:	<p>The youth will face delinquent charges in juvenile court or a formal hearing process. This is when charges are filed.</p> <p>Note: Petitioned doesn't necessarily mean a youth will face delinquent charges or be adjudicated delinquent. They could be placed on deferred status, the petition could be dismissed, or the youth could be certified as an adult.</p>
Petitioned (Status):	This is an additional measure for petitions, to capture the number of status offender specific petitions.
Probation:	Formal placement on probation by the court, this is not informal probation used as a diversion tactic, formal only. May be determined formally or informally.
County Camp:	Placement in China Springs, Aurora Pines, or Spring Mountain Youth Camps at the county level prior to deeper involvement in the system or commitment to a state correctional facility (prison).
Secure Confinement:	Commitment to a state correctional facility (prison). The court commits the youth to DCFS, which operates three state facilities.
Certified:	<p>This is done either through a direct file or through the juvenile court. If a youth is certified through juvenile court; their case will be heard in adult criminal court. This data is captured through the juvenile system.</p> <p>Note: Direct files bypass juvenile court and goes right to adult criminal court. DCFS does not have access to the number of juveniles who bypass the juvenile court system and go directly to adult criminal court.</p>

Delinquent: Youth are found to be delinquent during adjudicatory hearings in juvenile court. Being found (or adjudicated) delinquent is roughly equivalent to being convicted in criminal court. It is a formal legal finding of responsibility.

Re-Adjudications: This is recidivism measure number two for the state. It compares the youth adjudicated in the previous fiscal year with the current fiscal year. Note: Youth specific.

DEMOGRAPHICS – Youth Ages 0 - 17

To assess juvenile justice system trends, the demographics of the jurisdiction must be outlined for comparison. The federal supported Easy Access Juvenile Population (EZAPOP) juvenile population website (www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/) estimates that the total juvenile population in Nevada, ages Zero – 17, as of December 7, 2021, was 697,580. The EZAPOP website was further utilized to break down racial and ethnic background, by county, for youth ages Zero - 17.

Table 1: Youth Ages Zero – 17 by County

County	Total Youth	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/PI	Am Ind	Other/Mix	Total Minority	Males	Females
Carson	11388	4044	94	4509	99	272	2370	4974	5750	5638
Churchill	5799	1001	93	1341	30	217	3117	1681	2961	2838
Clark	525404	197106	14303	226478	8356	6708	72453	255845	267978	257426
Douglas	7653	1560	54	1810	35	161	4033	2060	4021	3632
Elko	14228	3888	85	4592	69	550	5044	5296	7339	6889
Esmeralda	129	39	1	40	0	0	49	41	71	58
Eureka	477	67	2	73	0	4	331	79	250	227
Humboldt	4544	1496	19	1635	19	101	1274	1774	2298	2246
Lander	1455	351	11	431	8	61	593	511	724	731
Lincoln	1009	76	4	87	1	6	835	98	527	482
Lyon	12221	2780	103	3333	66	384	5555	3886	6338	5883
Mineral	871	94	24	210	9	83	451	326	451	420
Nye	7915	1983	106	228	73	126	5399	533	4011	3904
Pershing	1092	287	21	370	8	54	352	453	559	533
Storey	513	71	0	74	0	2	366	76	253	260
Washoe	100997	34448	1180	39007	1207	2172	22983	43566	51796	49201
White Pine	1885	341	10	433	5	77	1019	525	968	917
Total	697,580	249,632	16,110	284,651	9,985	10,978	126,224	321,724	356,295	341,285
Percentage		35.79%	2.31%	40.81%	1.43%	1.57%	18.09%	64.21%	51.08%	48.92%

Table 2: Youth Population by Race 0 – 17 Years

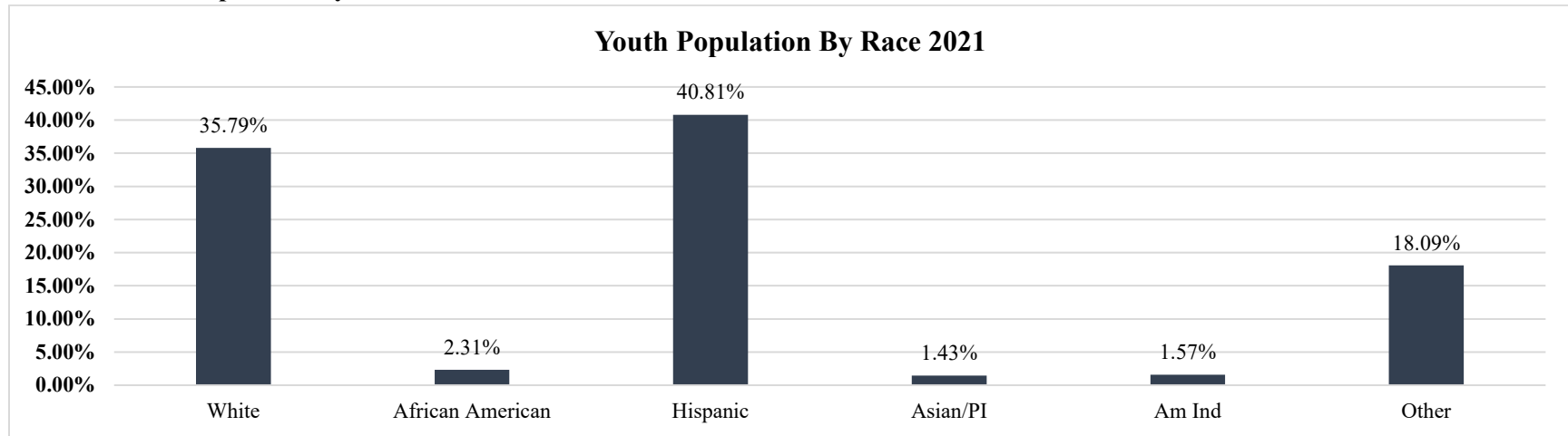


Table 3: Historical Population and Race Data

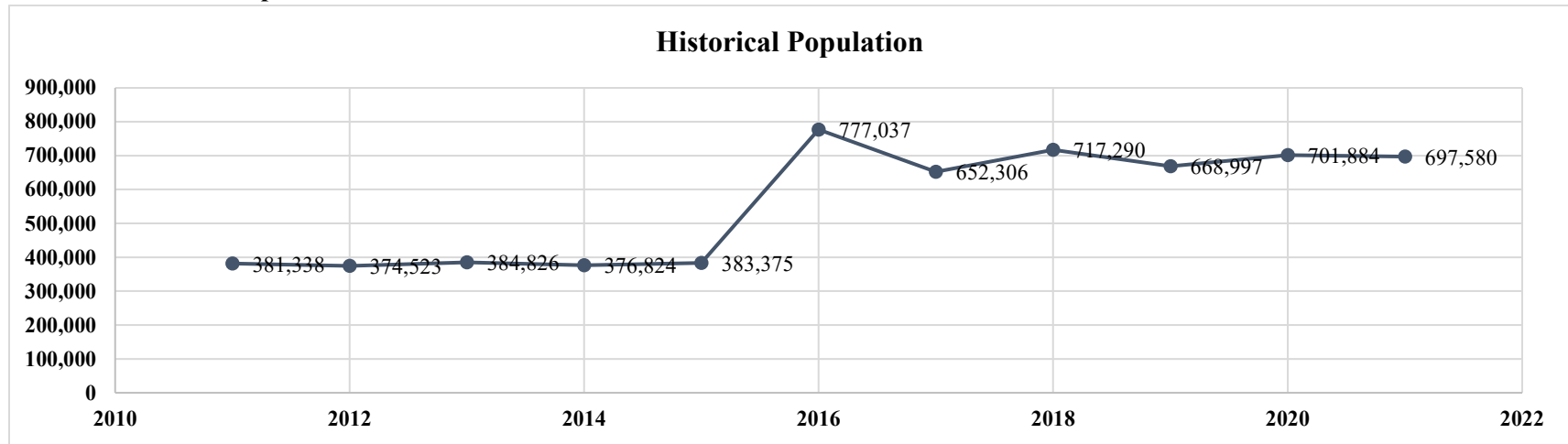
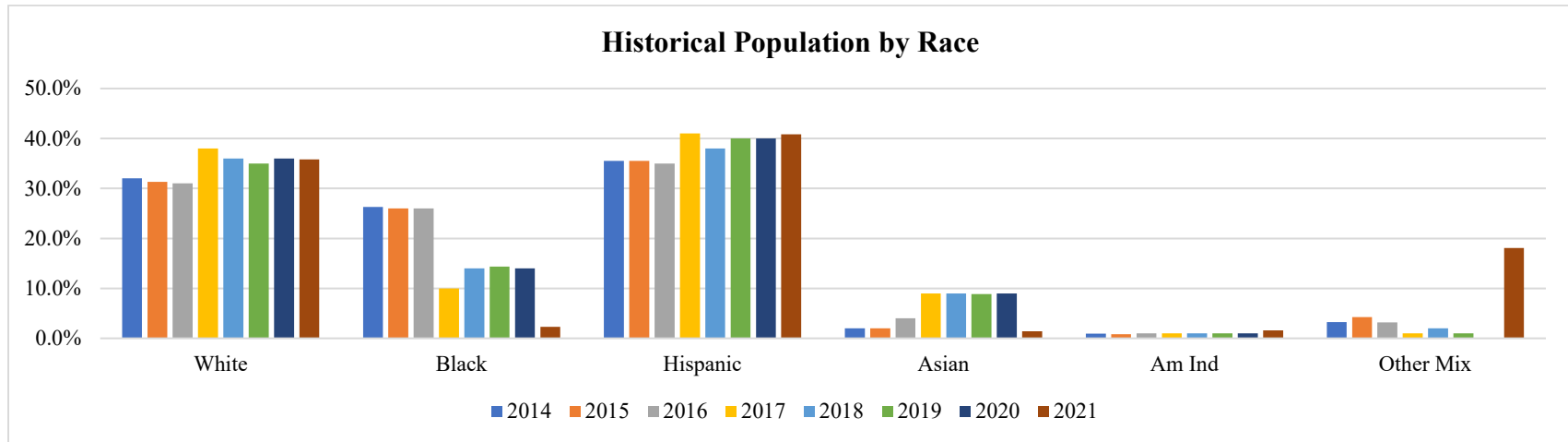


Table 4: Historical Race Breakdown



The breakdown for “African American (Black)” youth has decreased substantially, but there is a sharp increase in “Other Mix” in FFY 21. The largest population in Nevada is Hispanic.

Table 5: Juvenile Crime Data/Contact Points for 2021

County	Total Youth	Referrals	Arrests	Sec/ Det County	Confined State	Certified as Adult	Formal Probation Placement	Placed In County Camp	Diverted	Petitioned	Petitioned Status Offense	Delinquent Finding
Carson	11388	407	163	163	4	2	58	6	256	94	4	36
Churchill	5799	307	94	94	3	0	38	0	104	132	4	142
Clark	525404	4,037	2,446	1,355	127	56	1,084	104	1,088	235	122	949
Douglas	7653	1,226	125	85	0	0	31	10	47	125	2	49
Elko	14228	402	256	143	1	0	no data	2	144	275	no data	29
Esmeralda (See Nye)	129	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eureka	477	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Humboldt	4544	273	63	46	2	0	14	2	124	43	2	10
Lander	1455	54	4	4	0	0	6	0	20	14	14	24
Lincoln	1009	11	1	2	1	0	2	0	0	9	2	11
Lyon	12221	569	84	84	2	0	40	2	137	112	no data	no data
Mineral	871	34	3	3	0	0	2	1	14	7	1	3
Nye	7915	383	217	31	0	2	45	10	172	no data	no data	9
Pershing	1092	79	11	11	0	0	13	0	1	24	34	20
Storey	513	10	2	2	0	0	1	0	7	1	0	0
Washoe	100997	1,768	839	503	32	1	199	15	693	425	0	199
White Pine	1885	195	12	8	2	0	3	1	41	70	3	82
Total	697580	9755	4320	2534	174	61	1536	153	2848	1566	188	1563

Data provide by individual county. Note: Some counties were unable to pull data due to report generation issues.

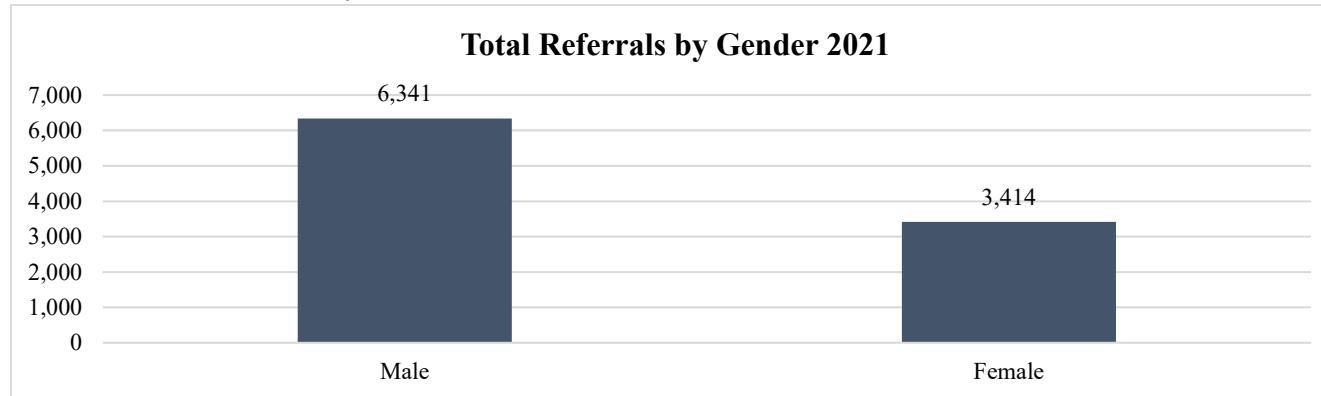
Table 6: Gender Breakdown

Gender	Total Youth	Referrals	Arrests	Sec/Det County	Confined State	Certified as Adult	Formal Probation Placement	Place County Camp	Diverted	Petitioned	Petitioned Status Off	Delinquent
Males	356295	6341	2915	1855	145	61	1252	134	1619	1123	130	1212
Females	341285	3414	1405	679	29	0	284	19	1229	443	58	351
Total	697580	9755	4320	2534	174	61	1536	153	2848	1566	188	1563

Referral

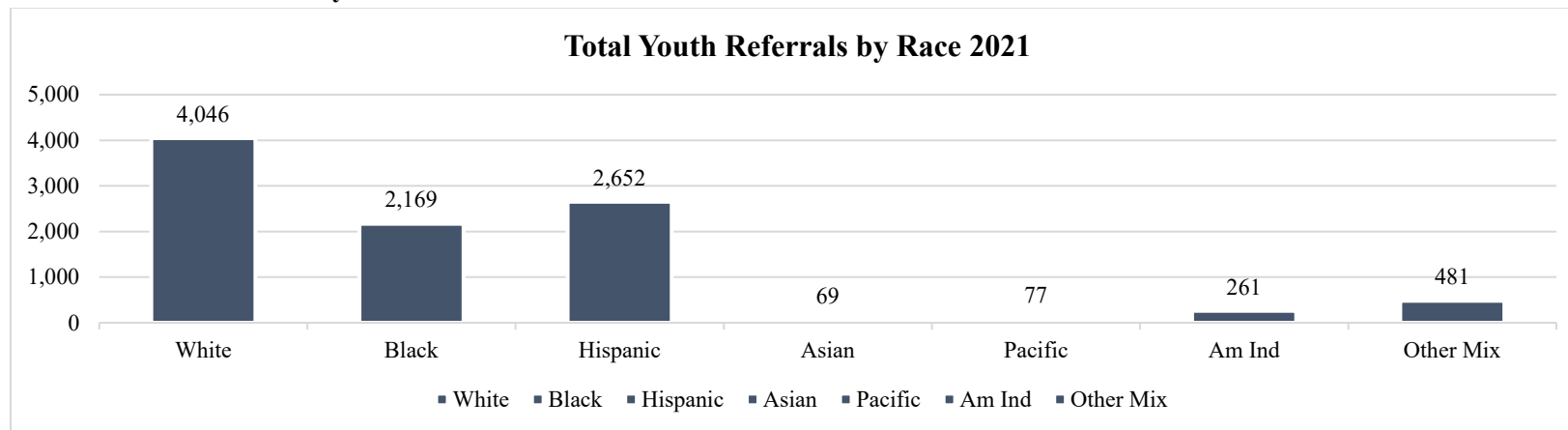
The front end of the system consists of a referral from various sources to a local department of juvenile services.

Table 7: Total Referrals by Gender



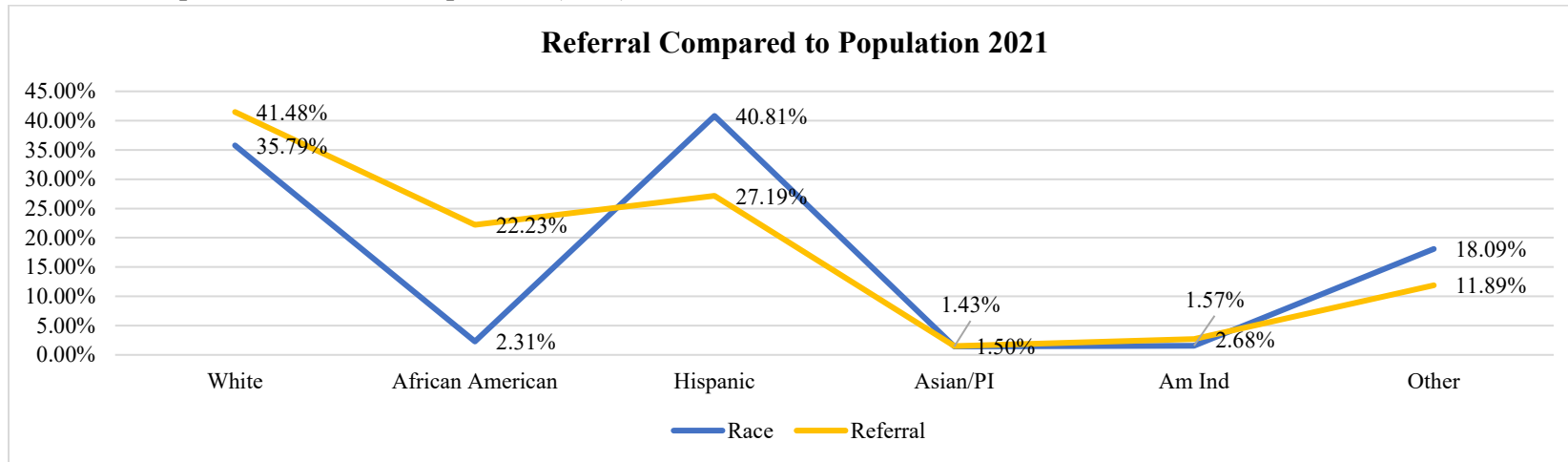
Just over sixty-four percent of referrals are males.

Table 8: Total Referrals by Race



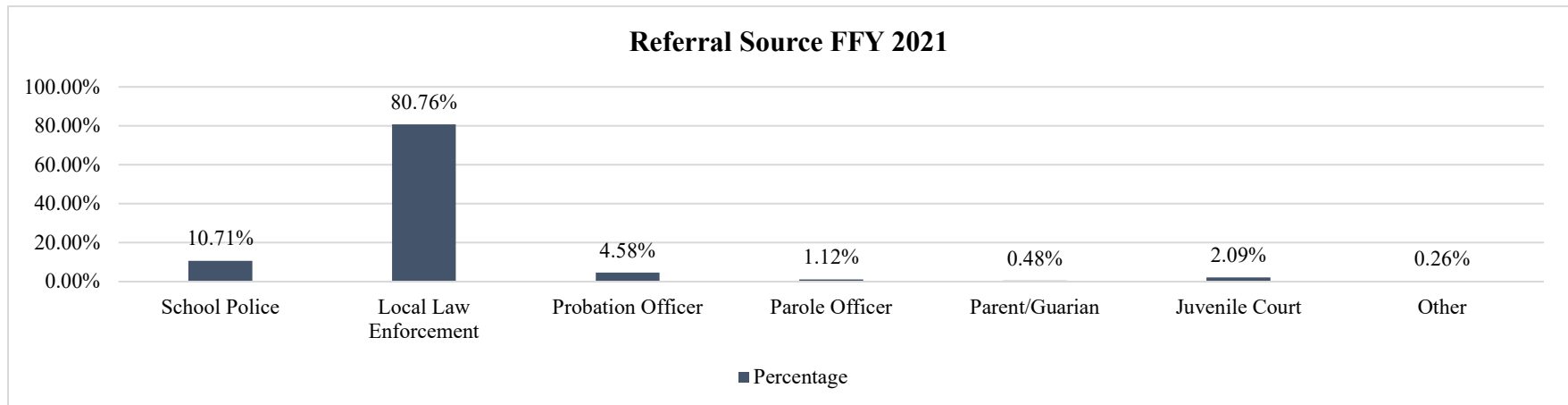
The majority of the referrals are White youth, followed by Hispanic, and African American (Black).

Table 9: Comparison of Referral/Population (Race)



Based on this data alone, disparity is found at referral for both White and African American youth, while Hispanic youth are underrepresented. In addition, American Indian youth are slightly overrepresented in the system. The “other category” seems overrepresented, but there is no “other” category reported on EZAPOP.

Table 10: Referral Source



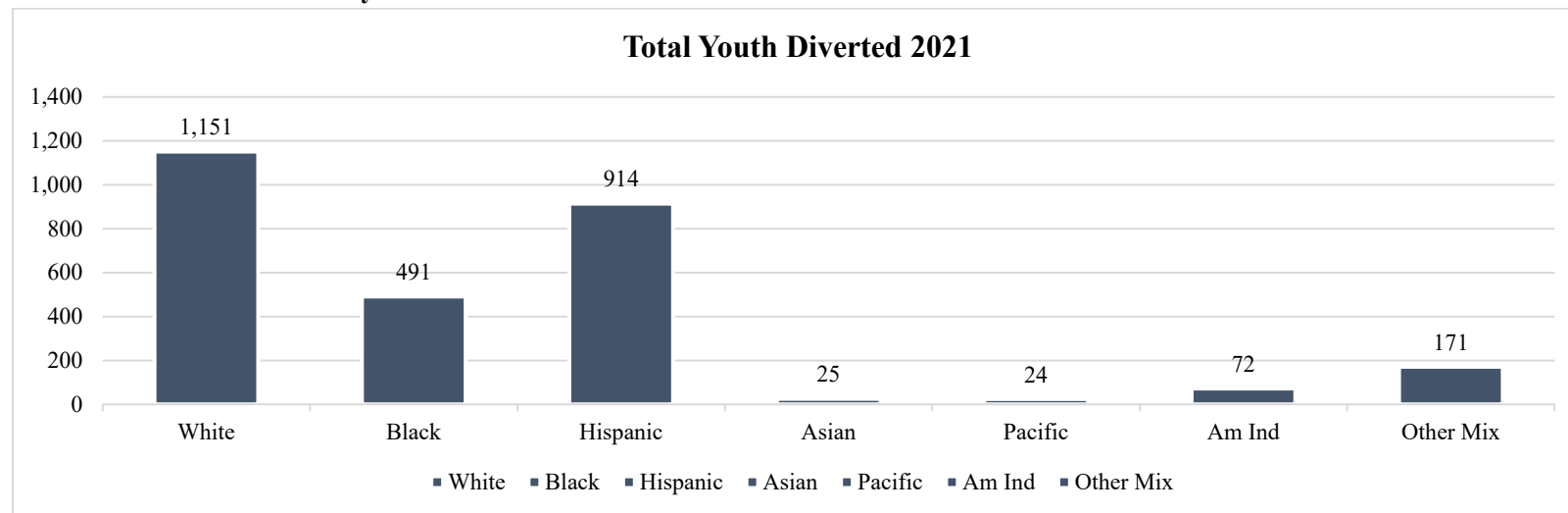
Greater than 80 percent of all referrals to the juvenile justice system in Nevada come from local law enforcement. In those counties with a juvenile detention facility, local law enforcement transport youth directly to those detention centers for booking while rural law enforcement contacts juvenile

probation to pick up the youth and transport them to the closest juvenile detention facility. In rural counties, local law enforcement may bring youth back to administrative offices or hold youth in the back of a police car pending the arrival of the juvenile probation officer. On rare occasions, local law enforcement will transport youth to the nearest juvenile detention facility in their police car.

Diversion

Diversion is designed to hold youth accountable for their actions while avoiding formal court processing or submerging youth deeper into the juvenile justice system. Diversion can include informal probation, other informal activities, or another form of diversion ordered by the juvenile court. The number of diversions is based on the number of referrals to the system.

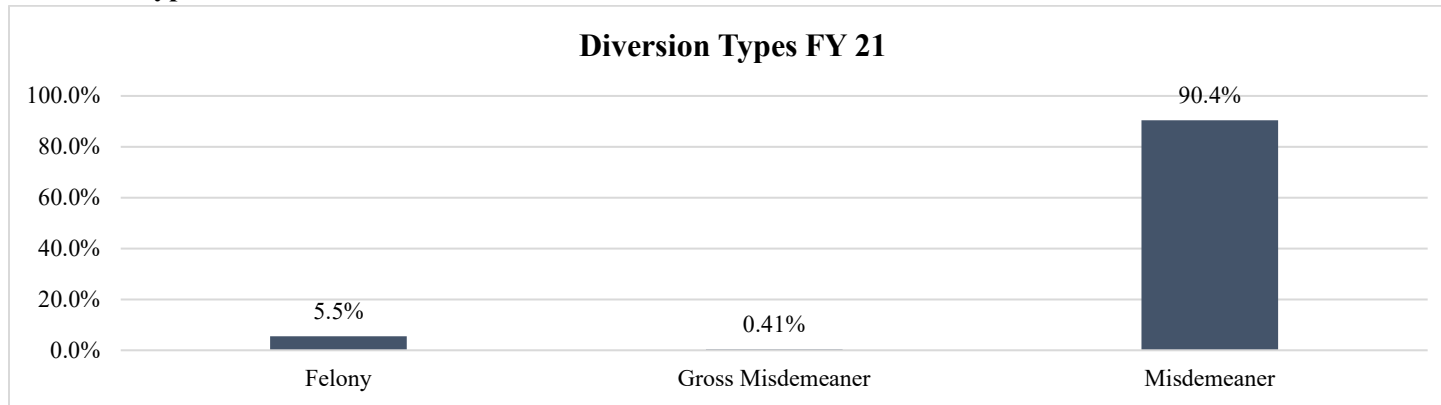
Table 11: Total Diversions by Race



There were 2,428 diversions in FY 21, which represents 29.19 percent of the total referrals in FY 21.

The percentage of diversions compared to total referrals in FY 20 was 43.1 percent. There was a 32.27 percent decrease in the number of youths diverted from the system from FY 21 to FY 20.

Table 12: Types of Diversions



Just over 90 percent of all diversion types reported were misdemeanor charges.

Table 13: Diversions by Gender

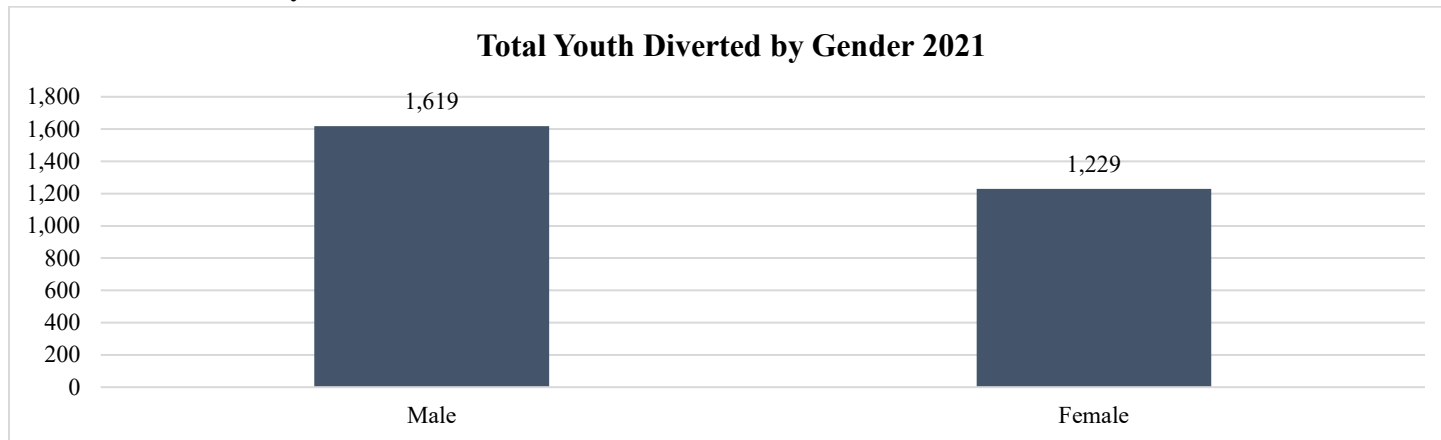
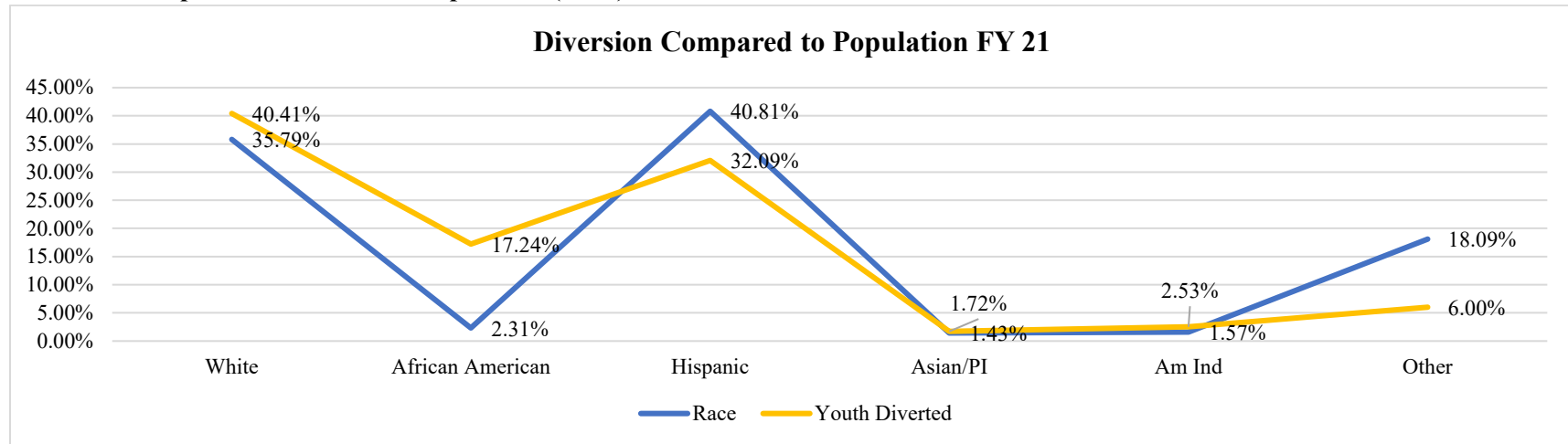


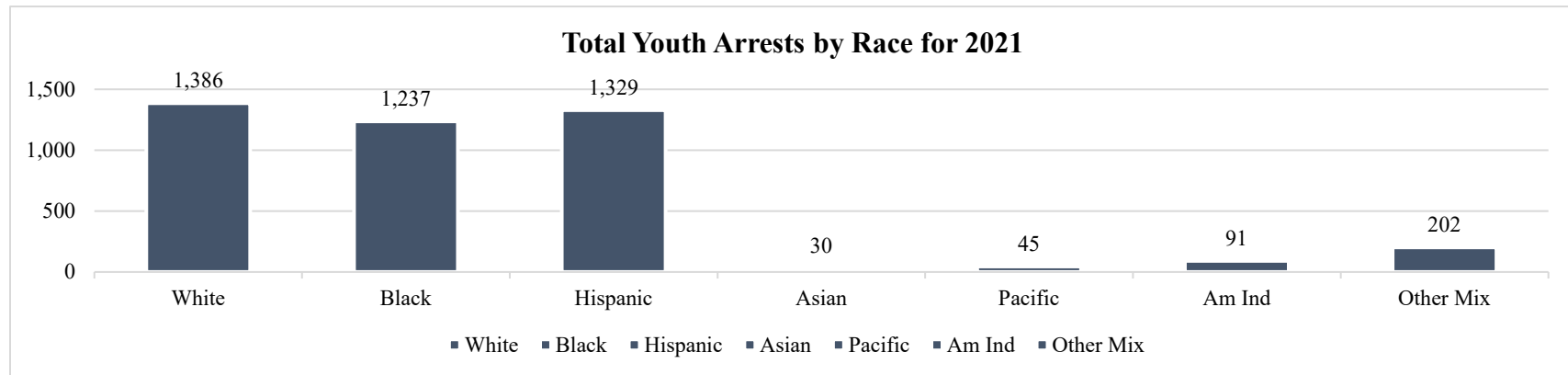
Table 14: Comparison of Diversion/Population (Race)



Diversion numbers are similar to the referral numbers which indicate an overrepresentation of White, African American, and Other youth and an underrepresentation of Hispanic youth.

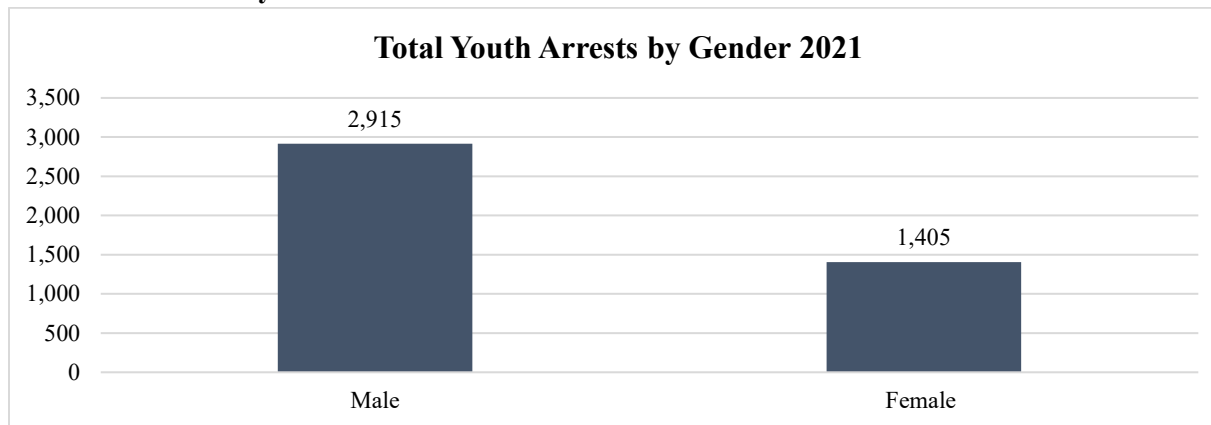
Arrest

Table 15: Total Arrests



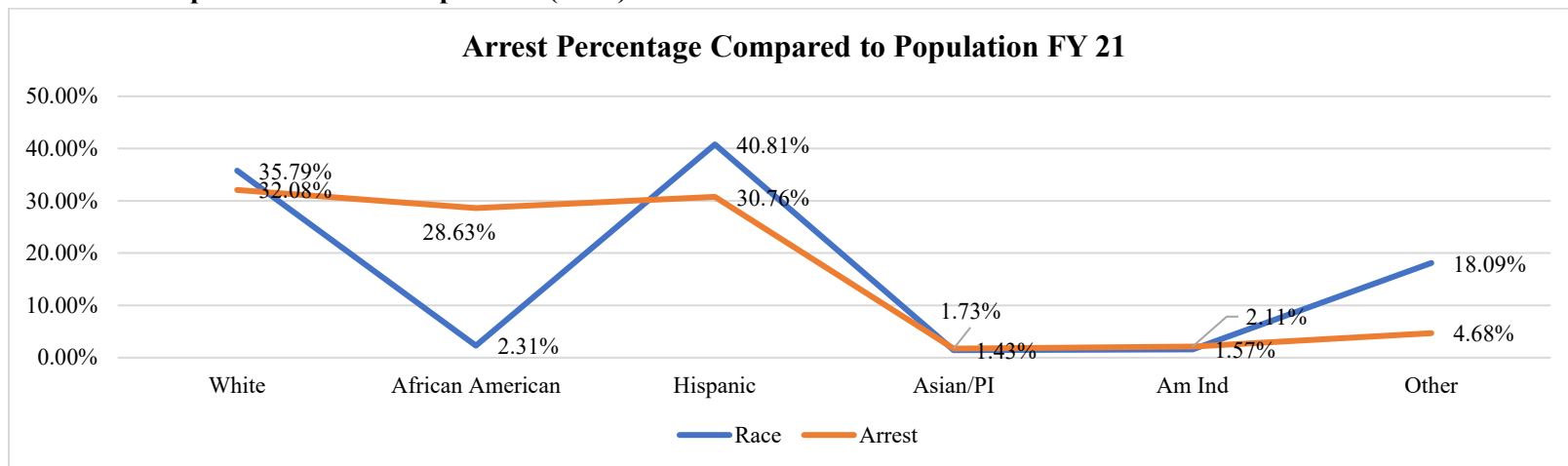
The largest racial group at arrest was White, Hispanic, with African American, coming in third. This follows the referral and diversion numbers which indicate an overrepresentation of White, African American, and other youth and an underrepresentation of Hispanic youth.

Table 16: Arrests by Gender



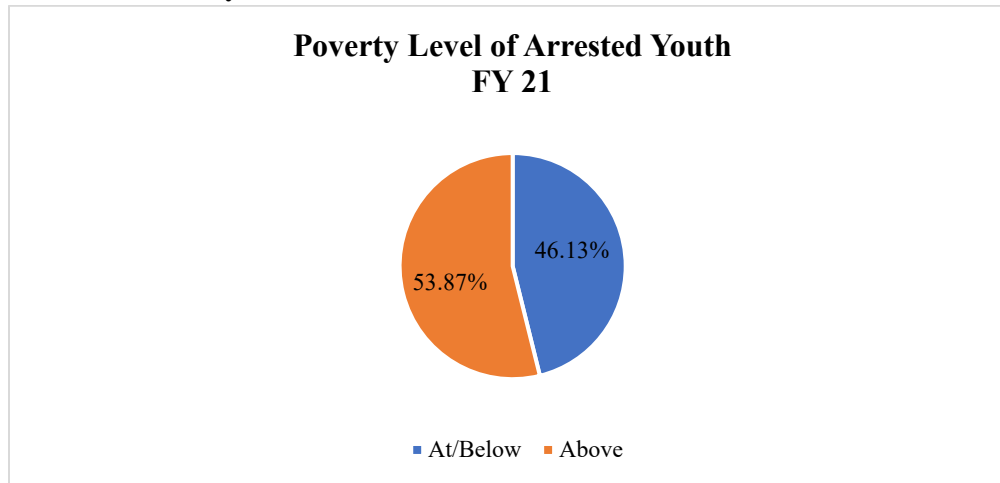
Just over 67 percent of arrests are males. This is an overrepresentation of males at the point of arrest.

Table 17: Comparison of Arrest/Population (Race)



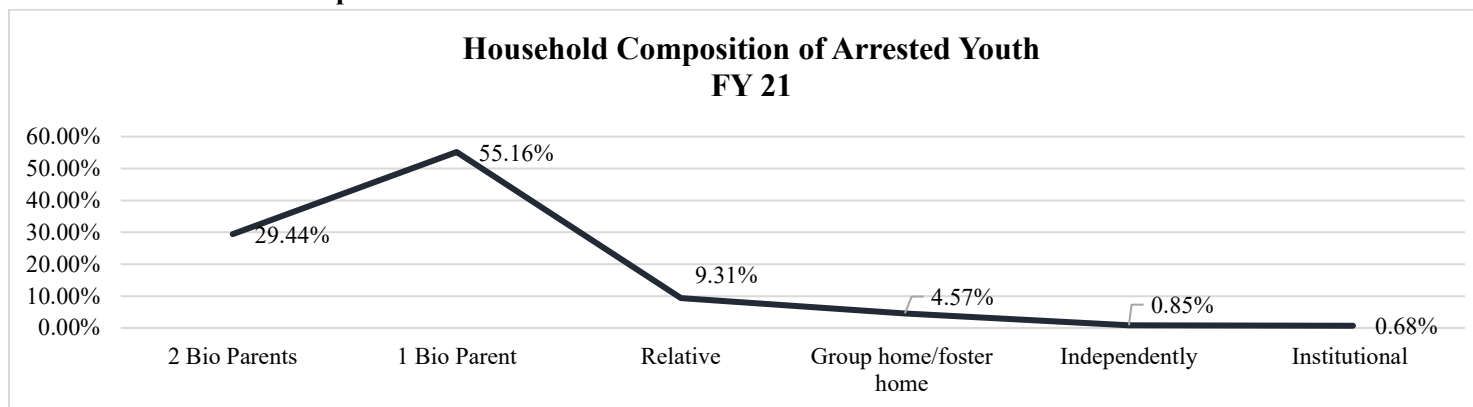
This comparison indicates disparity in the African American population.

Table 18: Poverty Breakdown of Arrested Youth

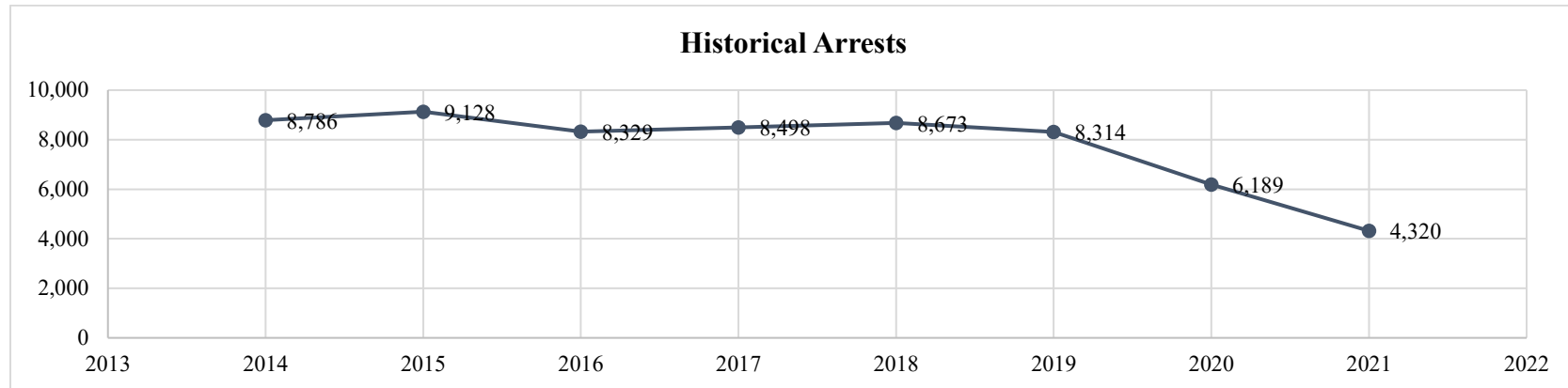


Just over 46 percent of arrested youth live at or below the poverty line.

Table 19: Household Composition of Arrested Youth



29.44 percent of arrested youth have an intact family (i.e., two biological or adoptive parents in the home). Just over 11 percent of arrested youth live in a household without a parent.

Table 20: Arrest Trend

The total number of arrests has seen a sharp decline since 2019.

Table 21: Top 10 Most Common Charges in Nevada

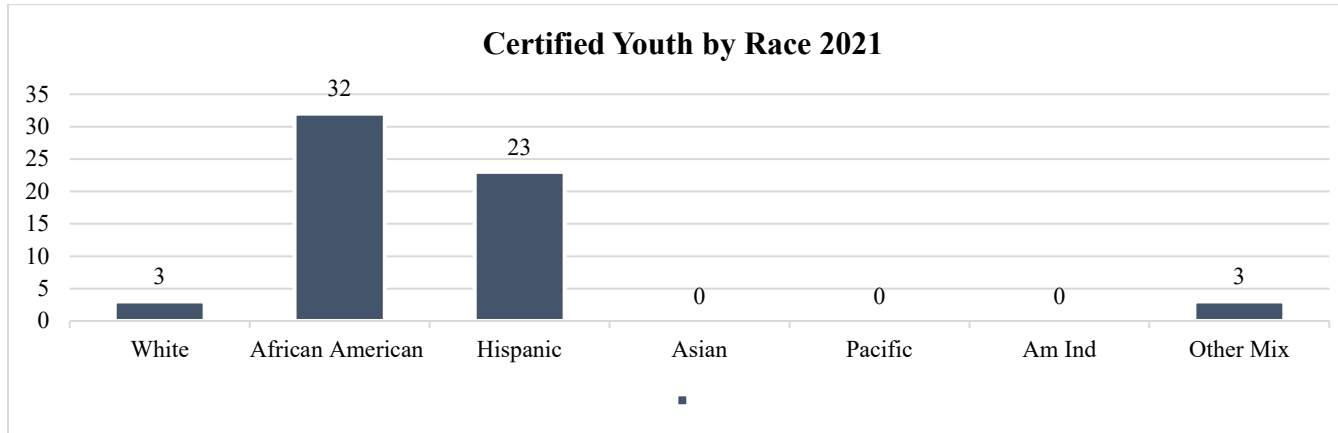
2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
1. Use of a deadly weapon in a crime or Possession of a deadly weapon	Assault/Battery	Assault/Battery	Assault/Battery	Assault/Battery
2. Assault/Battery	Domestic Battery	Possession of Marijuana	Possession or use of an illegal drug	Technical Violations
3. Violation of Parole/Probation	Violation of Probation/Parole	Fighting	Fighting	Larceny/Theft/Robbery
4. Domestic Battery	Possession, sale, or use of an illegal drug	Violation of Probation/Parole	Violation of Probation/Parole	Drug Possession or Under the Influence of Drugs
5. Burglary/Theft	Grand Larceny	Possession of a controlled substance	Curfew	Burglary
6. Conspiracy to commit crime/criminal contempt	Bench Writ/Warrant	Curfew	Petit Larceny	Obstructing Police/Providing false information
7. Runaway	Possession or a deadly weapon or use of a deadly weapon during a crime	Theft/burglary	Habitual Truancy	Domestic Battery
8. Obstructing Police / Resisting arrest/False Statement to Police /Concealing evidence	Obstructing Police/Providing false information	Truancy	Obstructing a police officer/False Statement to Police	Petit Larceny
9. Use, Possession, or sale of controlled substance	Theft/burglary	Trespassing	Burglary/Theft	Curfew
10. Other/Traffic related	CHINS	Domestic battery	Trespassing	Assault with a deadly weapon

Certified Youth

Youth are sent to the adult system through two different avenues: Certification and Direct File. Direct file youth bypass the juvenile court; therefore, data is not available for these youth.

DCFS does have access, through county data, to the number of youths who were certified through a juvenile court.

Table 22: Certified Youth by Race



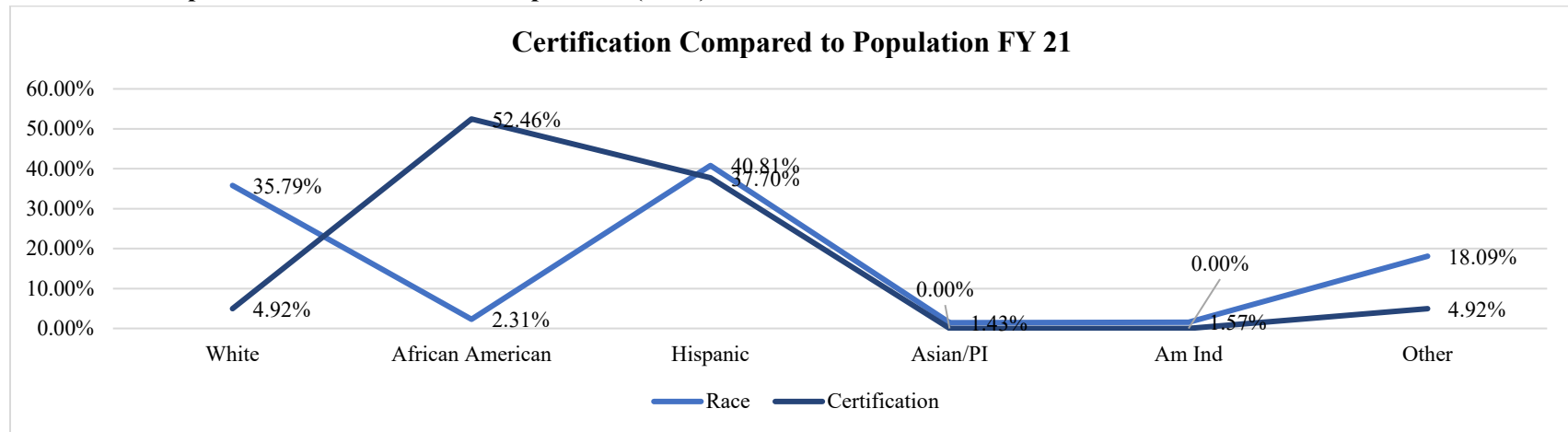
Approximately 95 percent of all certified youth are minority youth, with 52.45 percent African American youth.

Table 23: Certified Youth by Gender



One hundred percent of youth certified are males.

Table 24: Comparison of Certified Youth/Population (Race)

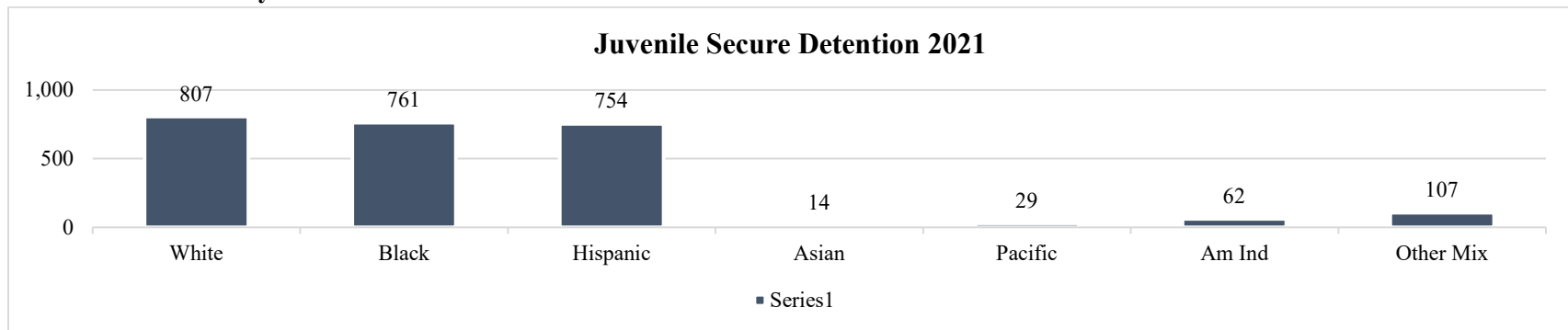


African American youth are disproportionately represented at the certification contact point. Hispanic youth are roughly equal, but White youth are significantly underrepresented at this contact point.

Secure Juvenile Detention

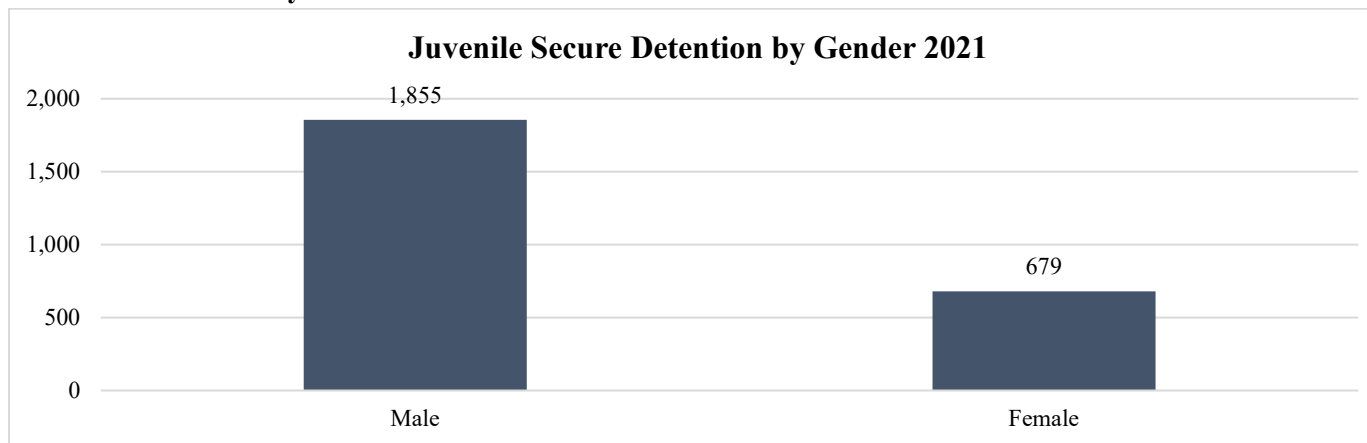
Seven (7) of Nevada's seventeen (17) counties operate a juvenile detention facility. Those counties that do not operate a juvenile detention facility contract with those nearby counties that do have a facility for detention services. Secure detention includes only those youth who are placed in a county detention facility and does not include those placed in group homes, out of state homes, residential treatment facilities, or other acute medical facilities.

Table 25: Detention by Race



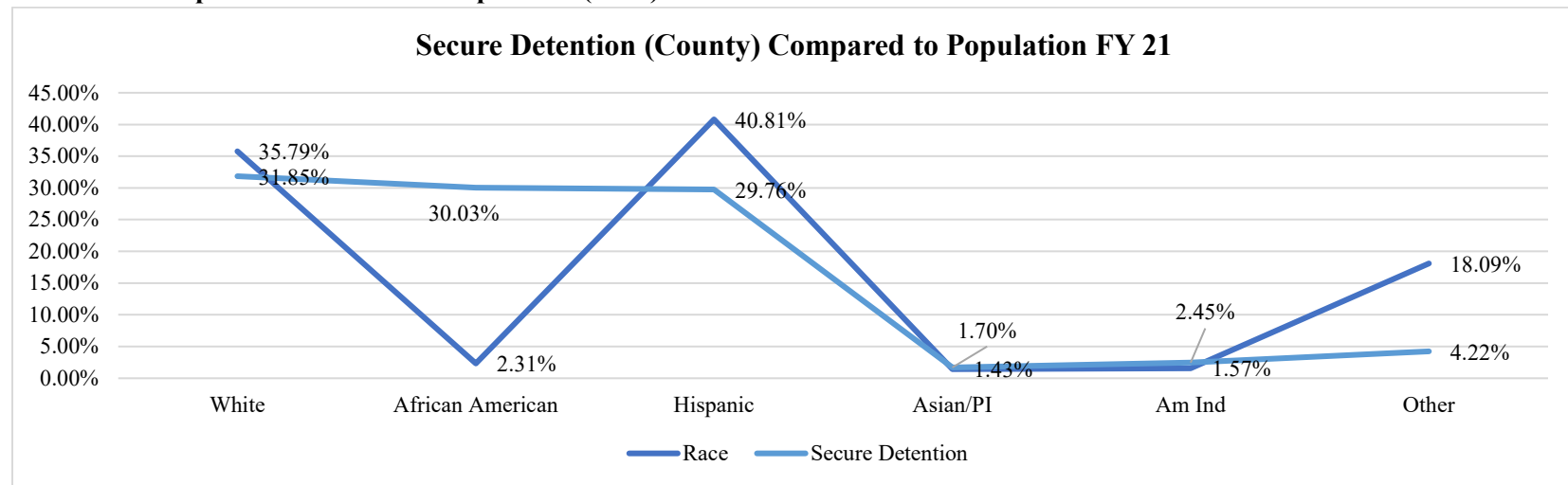
African American (Black) youth are overrepresented at the contact point of secure detention.

Table 26: Detention by Gender



Just over 73 percent of secure detention placements were males, which is an overrepresentation of males in the system.

Table 27: Comparison of Detention/Population (Race)

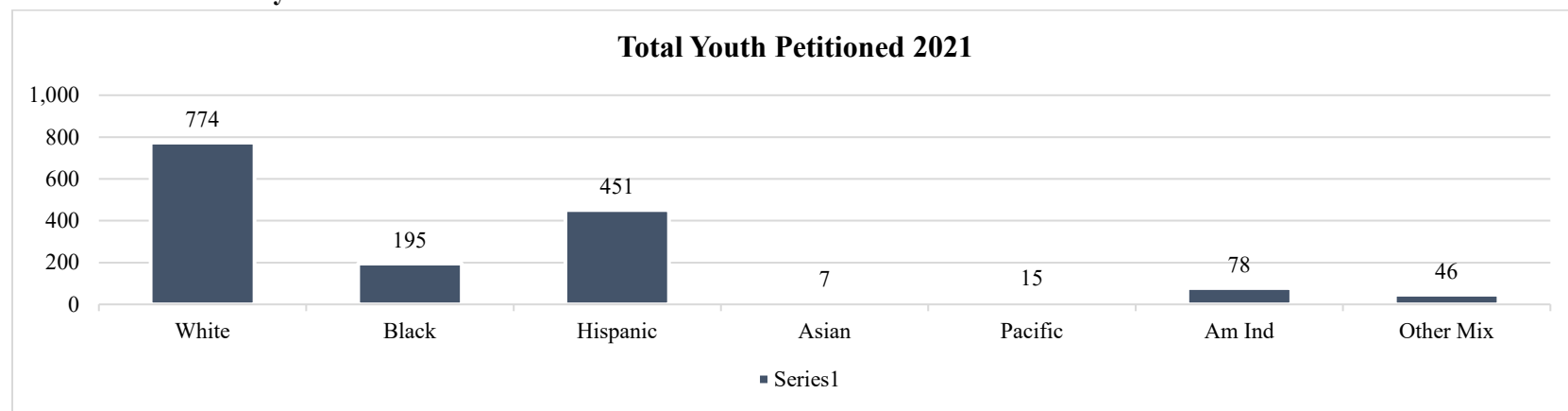


There is an underrepresentation of White and Hispanic youth, but an overrepresentation of African American youth.

Petitioned

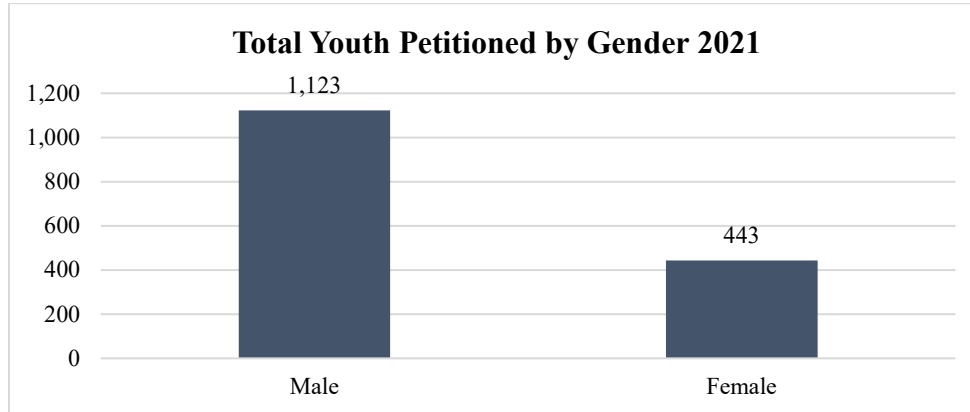
Petitioned means that a youth will face delinquent charges in juvenile court or a formal hearing process.

Table 28: Petitioned by Race



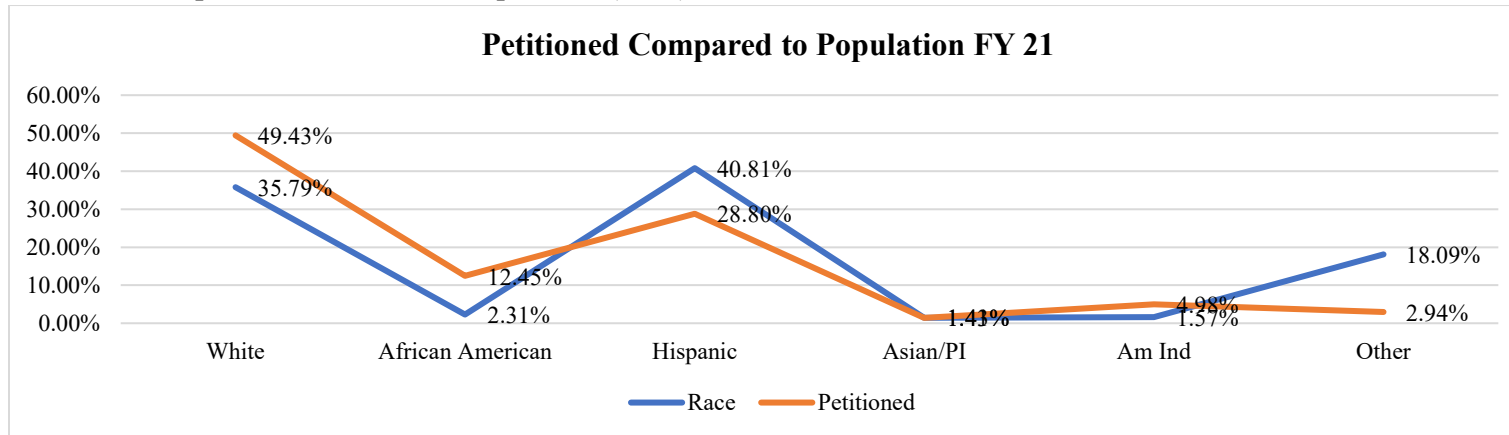
This is a significant overrepresentation of White Youth at this contact point, along with an overrepresentation of African American (Black) youth and an underrepresentation of Hispanic youth.

Table 29: Petitioned by Gender



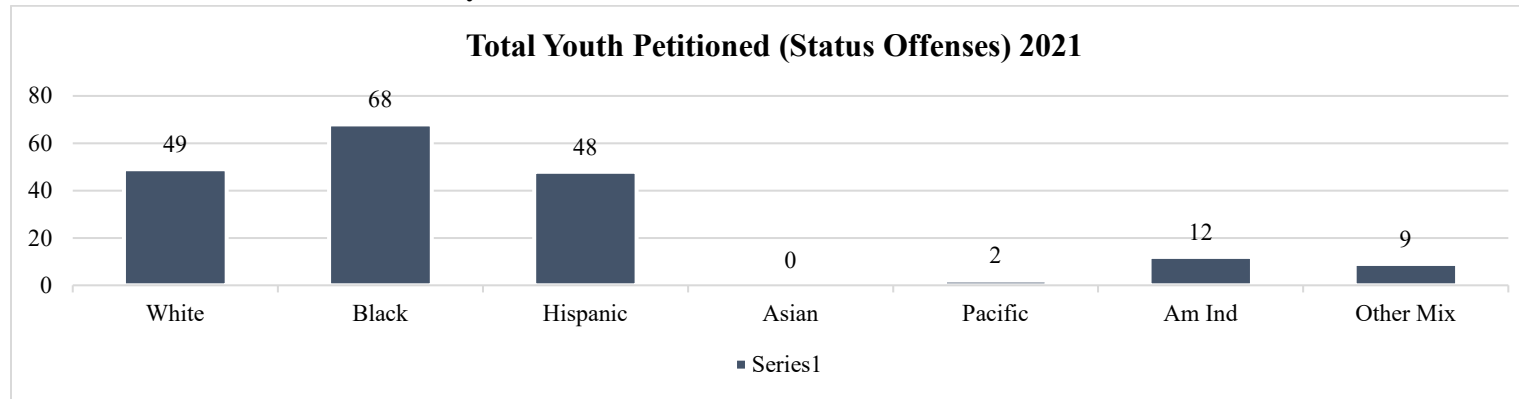
Just over 71 percent of all petitions were males; an overrepresentation of males in the system.

Table 30: Comparison of Petitioned/Population (Race)



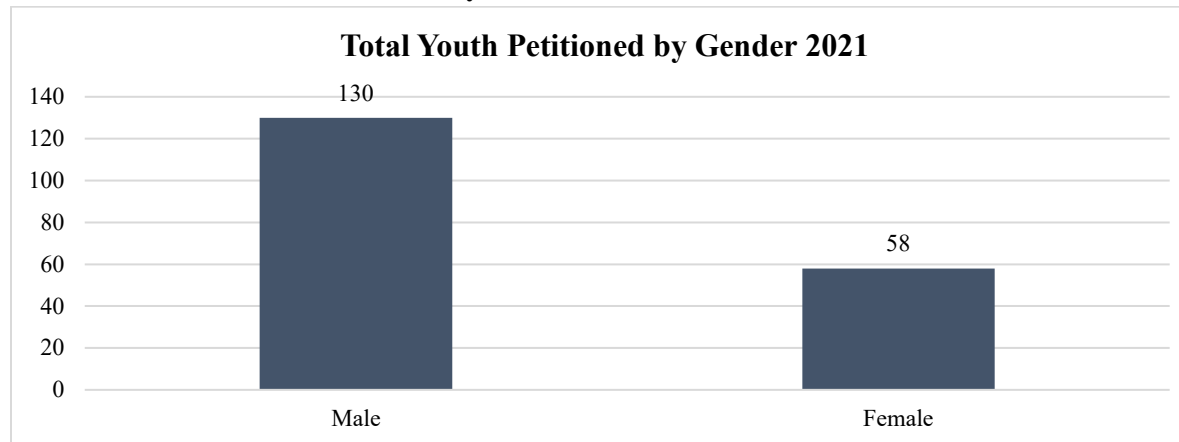
The greatest disparity at this contact point is found with White youth.

Table 31: Status Offense Petitions by Race



There is a significant overrepresentation of African American (Black) youth at this contact point.

Table 32: Status Offense Petitions by Gender

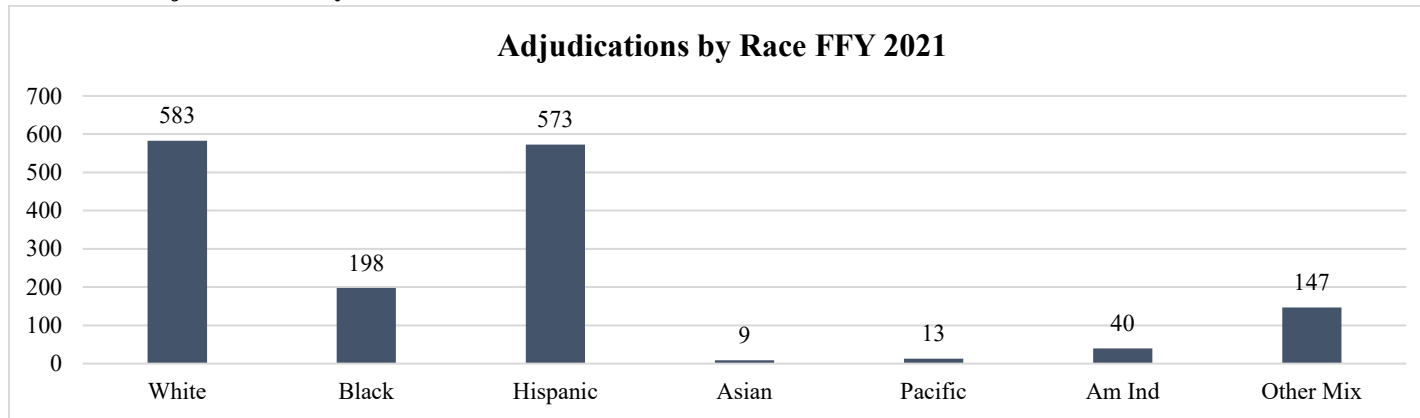


There is an overrepresentation of males at this contact point.

Delinquent/Adjudications

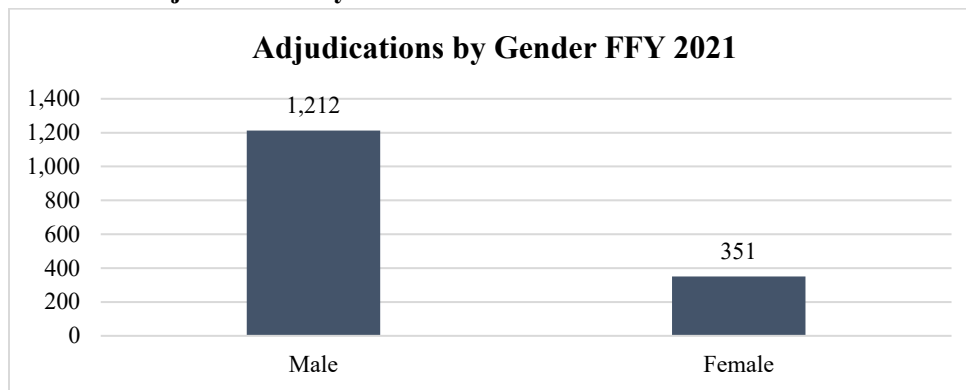
The number of adjudicated youths is greater than the number of petitioned youths in Nevada for a variety of reasons which include youth charged and adjudicated for parole/probation violations and other technical violations; therefore, the state cannot compare the number of adjudicated youths to petitioned youth.

Table 33: Adjudications by Race



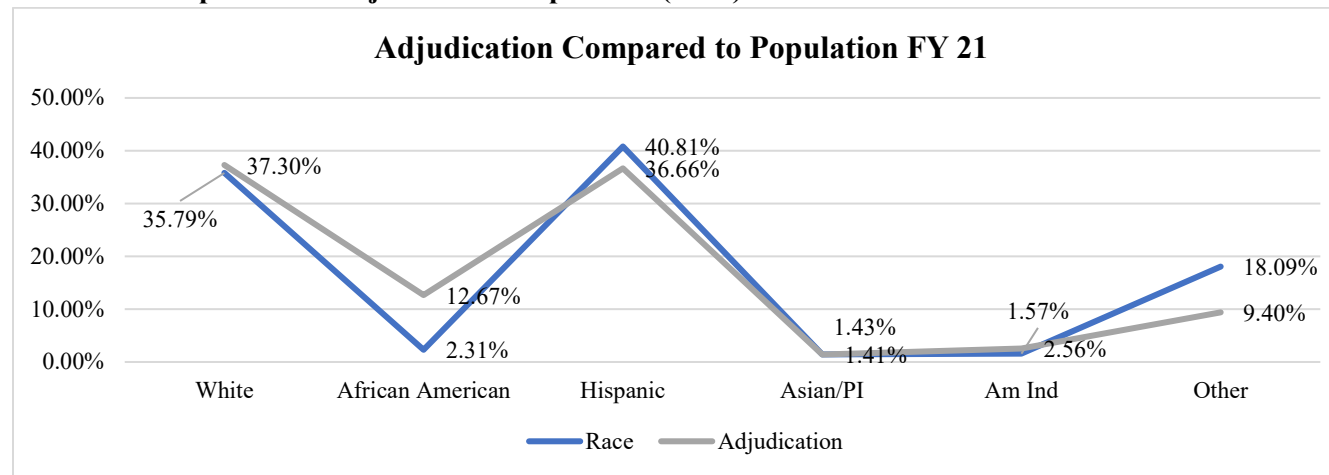
White and African American (Black) are overrepresented at this contact point, while Hispanic is underrepresented.

Table 34: Adjudications by Gender



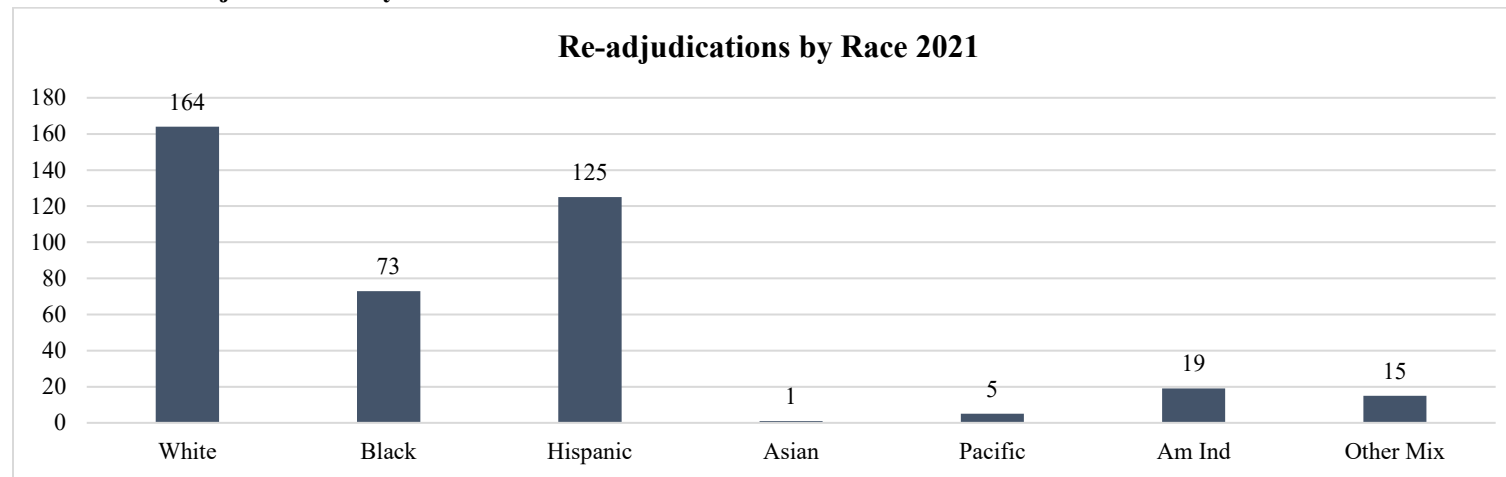
Almost 95 percent of adjudications are male.

Table 35: Comparison of Adjudications/Population (Race)



African American youth were disproportionately represented as compared to the juvenile population.

Table 36: Re-adjudications by Race FY 20



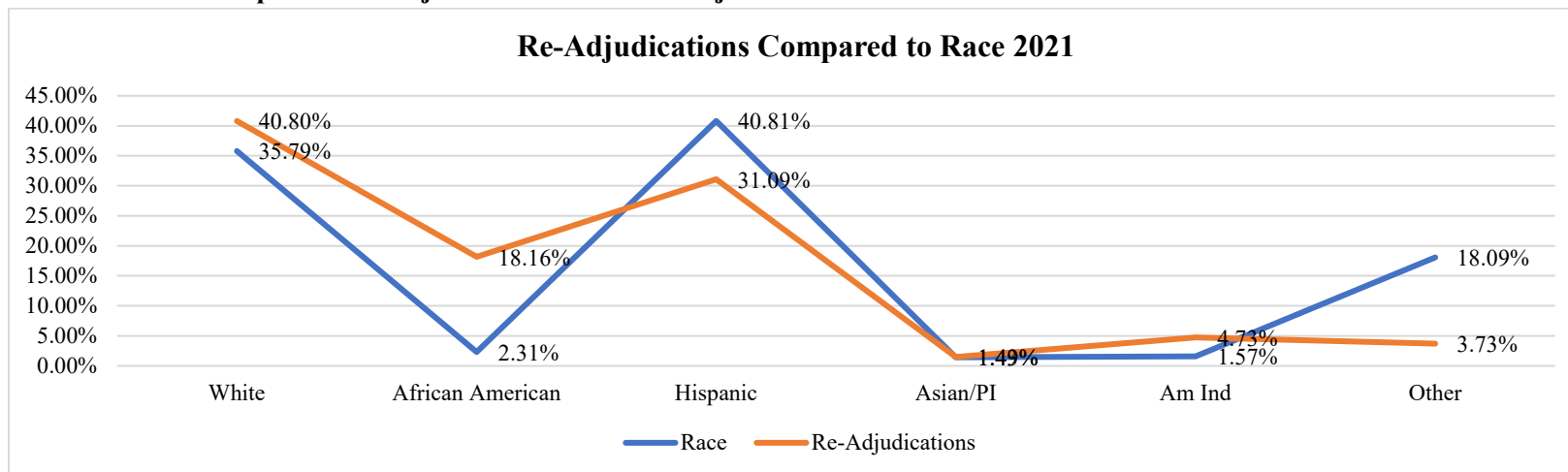
Both African American youth and White youth are overrepresented at this contact point.

Table 37: Re-adjudications by Gender



Roughly 82 percent of all re-adjudications are males.

Table 38: Race Comparison of Adjudication Versus Re-adjudications

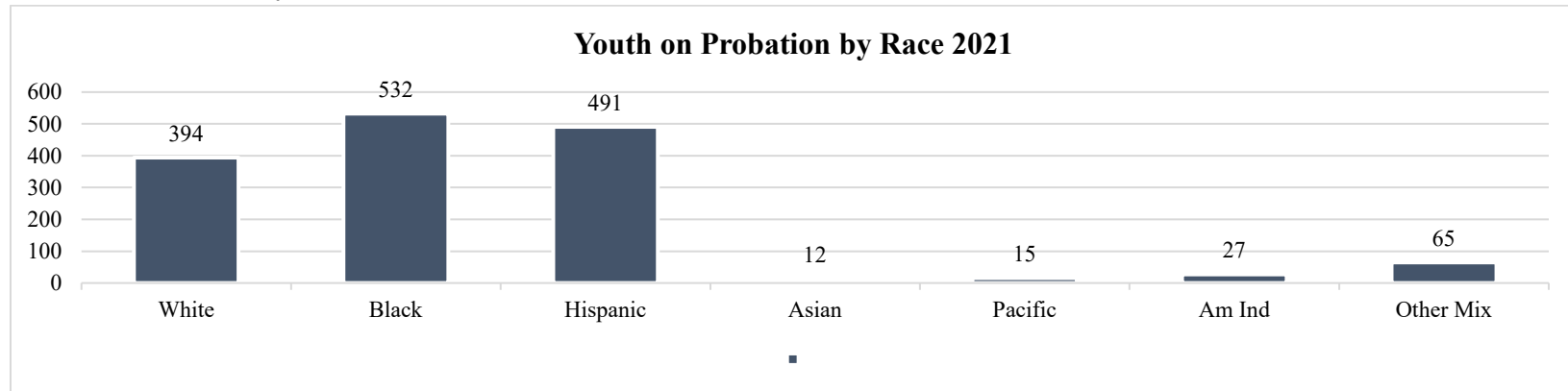


Both African American youth and White youth are overrepresented at this contact point.

Probation

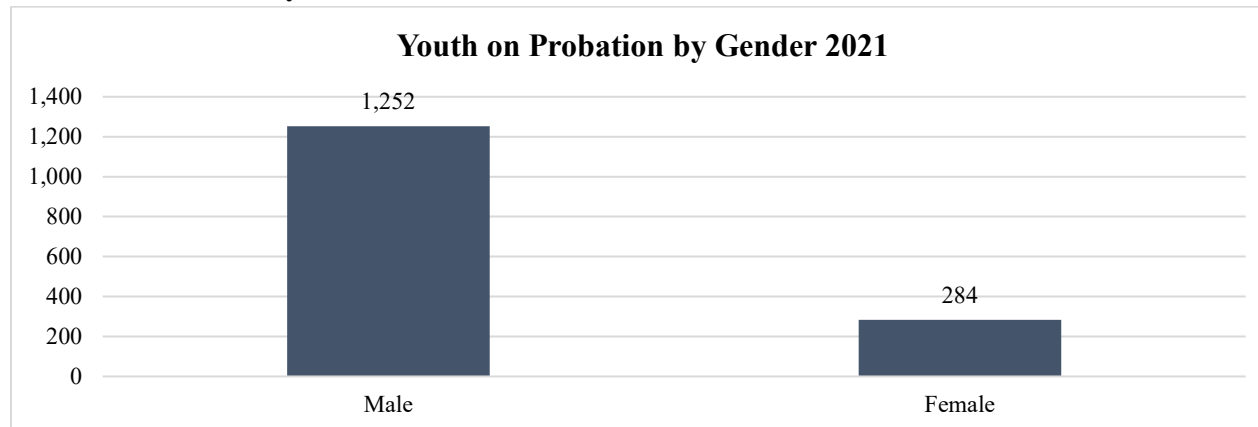
Probation in Nevada is counted as youth placed on formal probation or supervision activities through the juvenile court. Informal probation and supervision activities are captured under diversion.

Table 39: Probation by Race



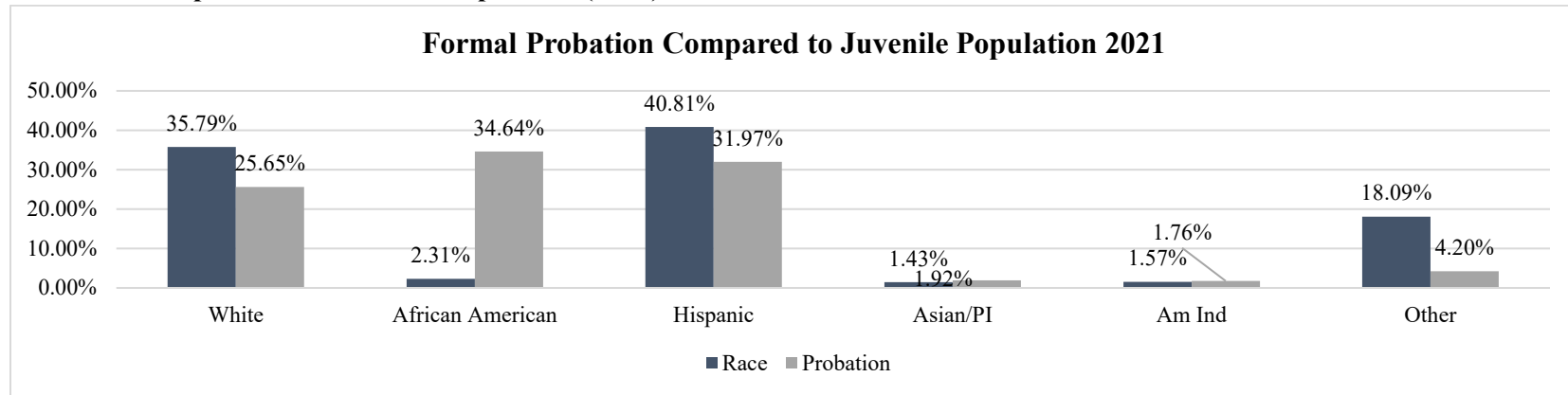
The highest number of youth placed on formal probation is African American youth.

Table 40: Probation by Gender



As with other contact points; males are overrepresented in the system at a 4.4 to 1 ratio.

Table 41: Comparison of Probation/Population (Race)

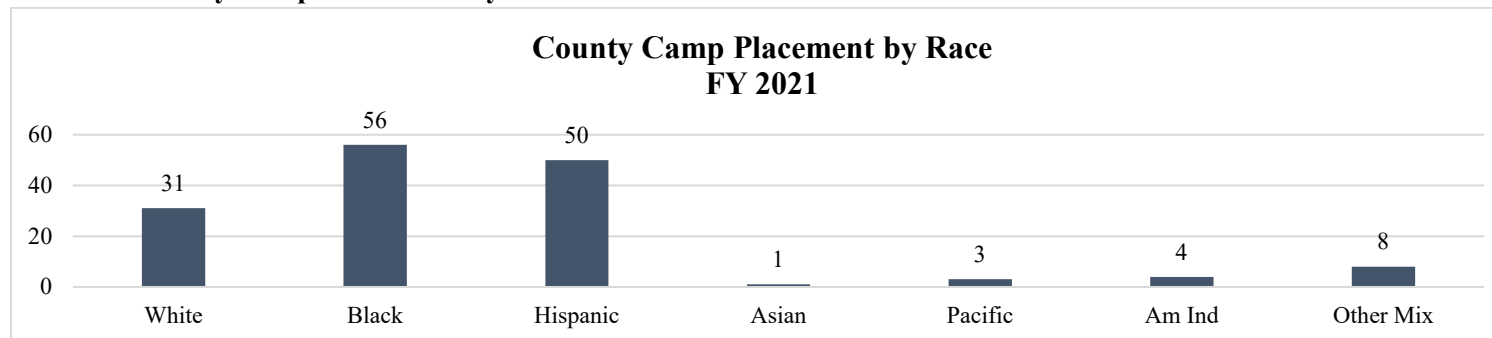


Disporportionality is found within this contact point, as with other contact points within African American youth. Hispanic and White youth are underrepresented.

County Camp Placement

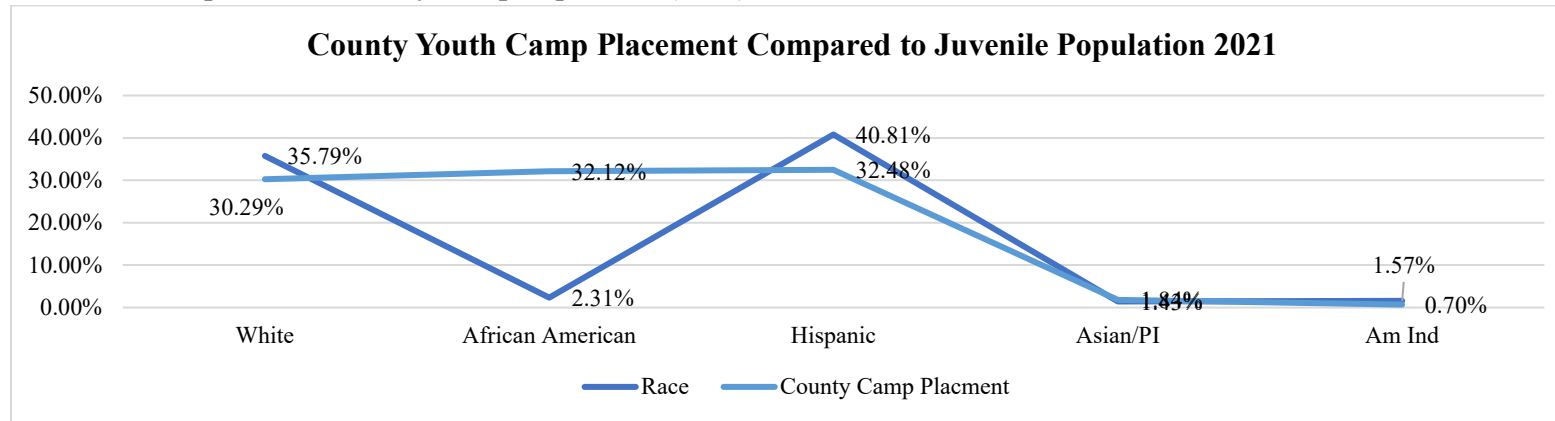
Judges in Nevada may sentence youth to extended detention stays, formal probation, county camp placement, or state custody for juvenile corrections. There are two available county camps, one is in Clark County, which is for male youth only, and one in Douglas County which accepts both males and females. In many cases, the youth that fail placement at the county camp level will be placed in the state's custody for placement in one of the three juvenile justice detention facilities. County camp placement occurs prior to state custody, which is the last resort or the deepest end of the juvenile justice system in the State of Nevada.

Table 42: County Camp Placements by Race



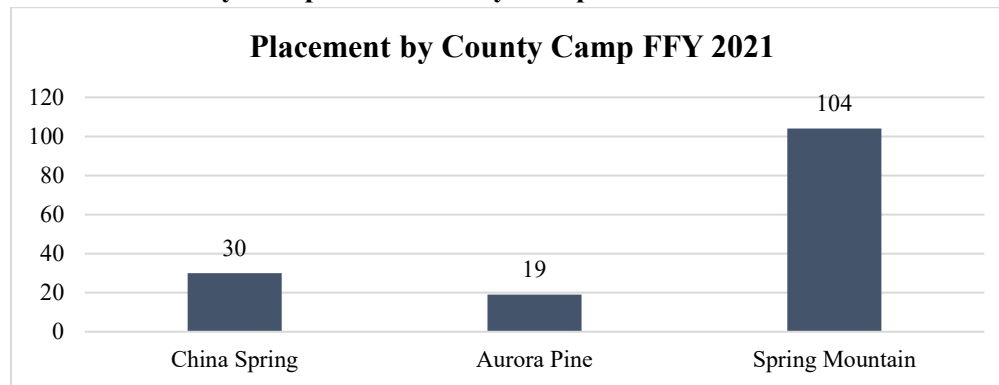
African American (Black) youth are significantly overrepresented at this contact point.

Table 43: Comparison of County Camp/Population (Race)



African American youth were disproportionately represented as compared to the juvenile population.

Table 44: County Camp Placements by Camp



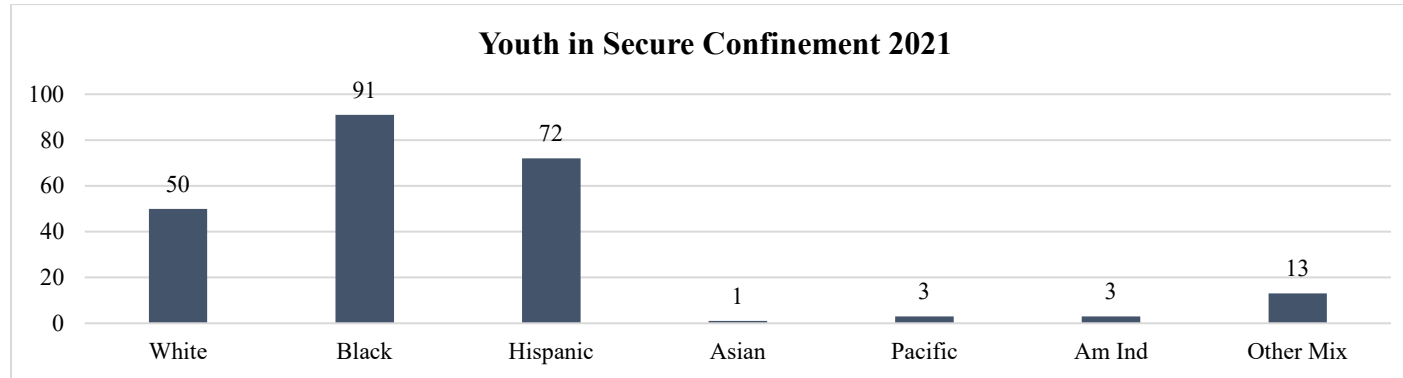
China Spring and Aurora Pine are located on the same property in Douglas County. All counties with exception of Clark County sends youth to this camp. Aurora Pine is the only camp in the state that accepts females.

Spring Mountain is located in Clark County and is only used by Clark County.

Secure Confinement/State Custody/Correctional Placement

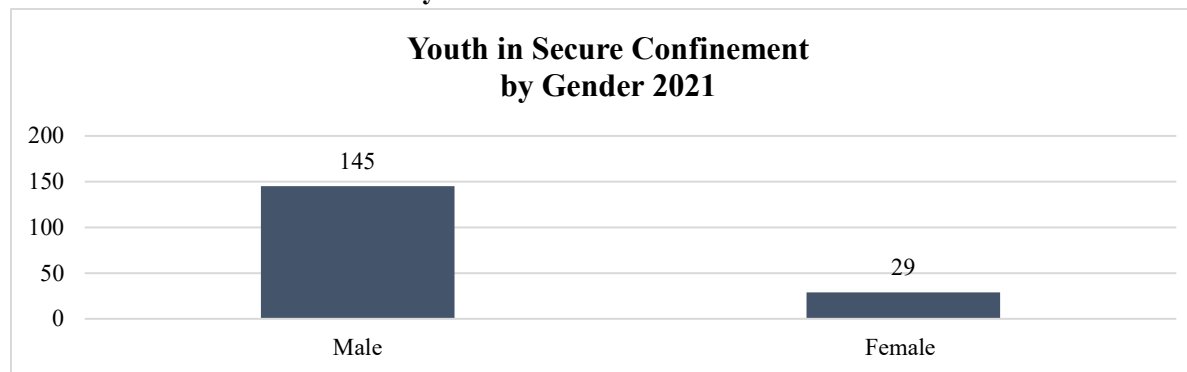
The first system involvement youth have with the state is at this point. The state provides juvenile corrections through the operation of three youth centers in the state: Nevada Youth Training Center (NYTC) in Elko, Caliente Youth Center (CYC) in Caliente, and Summit View Youth Center (SVYC) in Las Vegas. NYTC and SVYC are boys only with a combined 108 beds, while CYC has room for up to 40 females, in addition to 100 males. This is considered the deep end of the juvenile justice system in Nevada. Less than four percent of the total youth arrested in Nevada end up committed to the state for correctional services.

Table 45: Secure Confinement by Race



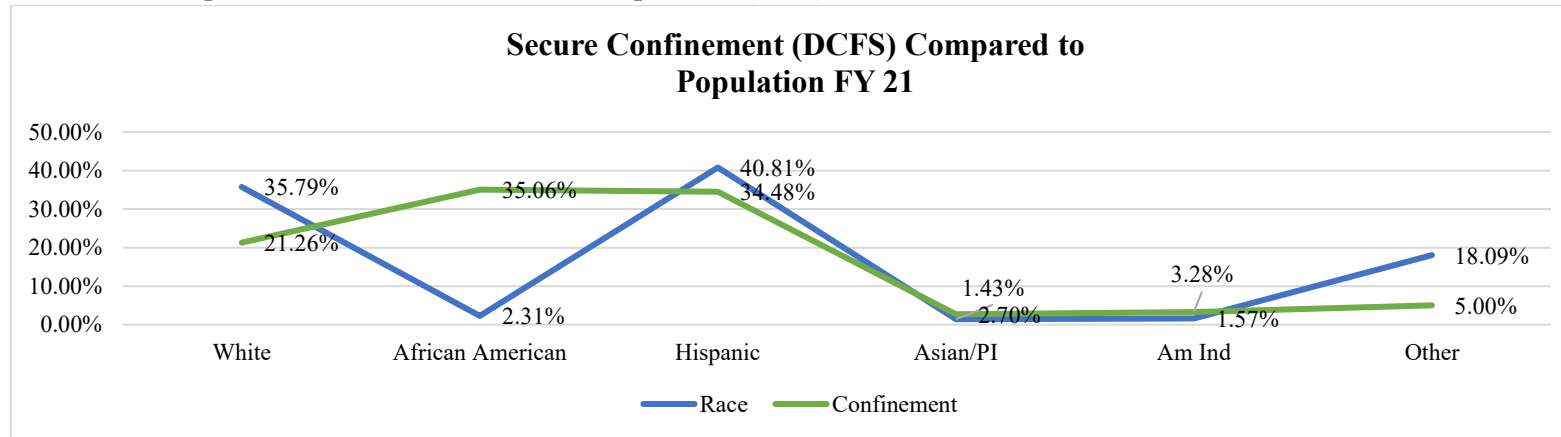
African American youth were committed to DCFS for correctional placement at a greater rate than Hispanic and White Youth.

Table 46: Secure Confinement by Gender



In July 2020, the legislatively funded beds dropped from 224 to 160 due to the impact to the state’s economy by the COVID-19 pandemic. The number of beds for females dropped from 40 to 20. The number of beds remained at the reduced number in 2021.

Table 47: Comparison of Secure Confinement/Population (Race)



African American youth are disproportionately committed to DCFS for correctional placement.

CONCLUSION

Based on the FFY 2021, African American youth are overrepresented at almost every contact point, while Hispanic youths seem to be underrepresented at many contact points. Further, White youth are found to be overrepresented at the points of referral, diversion, petition, and adjudication.

This data reflects an overall decrease of youth in the juvenile justice system, as evidenced by Table 20 (Arrest Trend), but disparity in the system continues. The data indicates several types of disparity:

- 1) Overrepresentation of African American youth at almost every contact point
- 2) Overrepresentation of males at every contact point
- 3) Overrepresentation of White youth at diversion, petition and adjudication
- 4) Underrepresentation of Hispanic Youth at almost every contact point

These indicators seem to shift the conversation into a different direction; one that acknowledges and applauds the work done by states to reduce the number of juveniles in the criminal justice system, but also one that has seen a shift in disparities. Nevada is not seeing disparity under the auspice of “youth of color” where all minority groups indicate disparity. Hispanic youth are underrepresented in the system overall, while significant disparity is still indicated with African American youth. Lastly, White youth are overrepresented in system contact points.

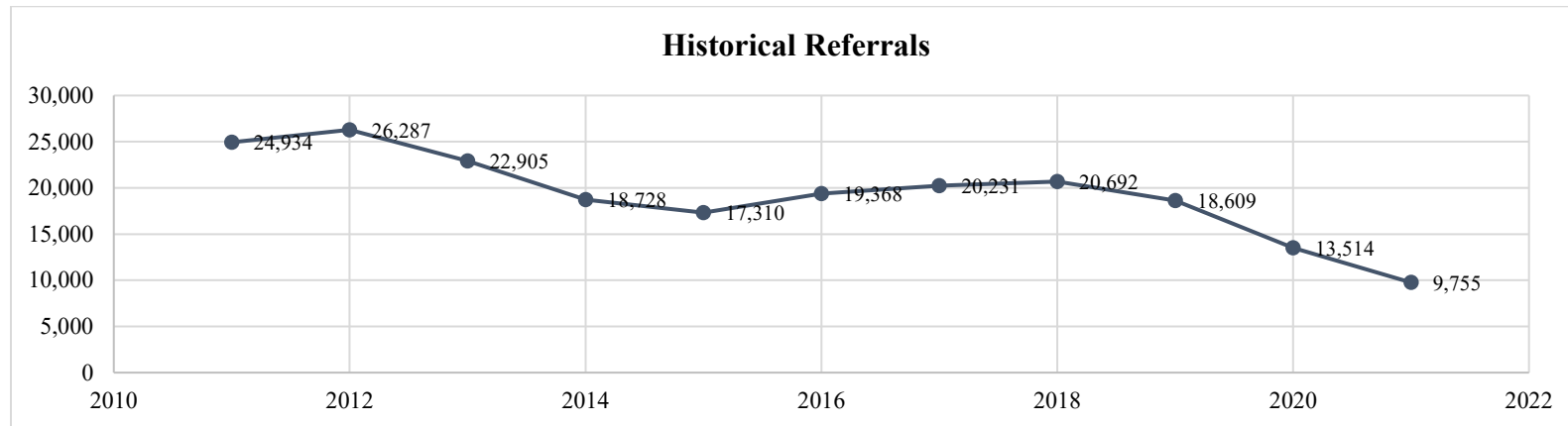
ACTION PLAN – QUESTIONS FROM OJJDP

1. What does your RED number tell you about your Jurisdiction?

The state's RED numbers indicate three distinct issues: 1) Disparity exists at a greater rate in urban counties; 2) African American disparity is seen at all contact points to include diversion; and 3) African American youth face greater disparity as they move deeper into the system. In addition, the state's RED numbers indicate that 1) White youth are overrepresented at a handful of contact points, 2) males are significantly overrepresented, and 3) Hispanic youth are underrepresented.

Comparison/Analysis:

Overall, the state has made significant strides in reducing the number of youths who enter the juvenile justice system.



This is due in large part to the efforts in Clark County (the state's largest county which has roughly 73 percent of the total population). Clark County has established juvenile assessment centers around the county to address status offenses and minor issues with juveniles, rather than making a referral to the Clark County Juvenile Probation. There are currently five locations.

The drop in referrals has reduced the number of youths who receive disparate treatment in the juvenile justice system but has not eliminated it. Rather, the data reflects a shift in the disparity conversation to 1) Hispanic youth are underrepresented, and 2) White youth are overrepresented (partially), and 3) African American youth continue to see significant disparities.

The drop in overall referrals does not and has not changed the fact that: 1) Disparity is found primarily in the state's two largest counties, Clark County and Washoe County, and rural jurisdictions see more disparity with Native American Youth than any other population.

Specifically, the number of African American youth at the contact points of petition, adjudication, and secure detention decreased, even though African American youth are still overrepresented in the system.

2. What would success in RED reduction look like for your jurisdiction?

Nevada has focused on increased awareness of racial and ethnic disparities over the last 12 months, rather than the actual numbers. Overall, the numbers indicate that disparity exists in Nevada in the juvenile justice system, but also other systems, such as children's mental health and child welfare. This realization has placed an increased focus on awareness of the issue by the practitioners in the field doing the work and making the decisions. The state has passed legislation and required the creation of work groups to address this issue.

- Senate Bill 108 signed June 4, 2021, requires all juvenile justice practitioners to receive training in cultural competency, disparate treatment of minorities, and implicit bias. This training not only includes probations and facility staff, but also includes judges, public defenders, prosecutors, etc. The goal is to have all individuals trained by December 2022 as the state must have the training created by an expert. Unfortunately, there are little to no trainings available to states, free of cost, that focus on cultural competency and juvenile justice. There is an abundance of training for social workers, medical staff, mental health staff and education staff, but little to no training for probation and detention staff. Costs associated with this training were not originally factored into the budget, so the agency is working through the legislative process to increase capacity long term and looking to other sources of funding for the short term, to ensure staff is trained.
- Creation of the Race and Equity Workgroup within the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS). DCFS in Nevada is unique in that this one agency houses juvenile justice, child welfare, and children's mental health. The creation of the Race and Equity Workgroup is the first workgroup that has bridged all three areas in hopes of creating a training platform for cultural competency and implicit bias. The goal is to establish a training platform and curriculum for practitioners in those three fields on a statewide level. The work of this group is underway.

Specifically, the state would like to see additional decreases in numbers for African American youth at contact points to build on the successes of the decreased numbers at petition, adjudication, and secure detention.

3. How much do you want to reduce RED next year?

The governor and the legislature recognize the issue and the need for resolution. They have increased training requirements and awareness requirements across multiple areas within the criminal justice system. With increased requirements comes an increased need for funding. The state plans to work within the legislative process to boost training capacity by:

- 1) Requesting a training position to oversee facility training requirements
- 2) Requesting a racial and ethnic disparity position within the agency to have an expert in the field in house to assist in the development of training
- 3) Factoring in additional training hours for staff

4. Is that reasonable? If yes, why?

It is reasonable to expect the state to discuss and attempt to identify issues affecting disparity and to take steps to address those issues. It is not reasonable to expect a state to place a number value on the reduction of RED as it touches multiple systems and contact points. Rather, the state plans to address RED through training and education.

5. What do you need from OJJDP to be successful with your plan?

States need help with this. This problem is too complex, and the solutions are difficult and expensive. The state makes the following recommendations to OJJDP to assist.

- 1) Fund a technical assistance vendor who can create and deliver juvenile justice specific training curricula around disparity in facilities, cultural competency, implicit bias, and decision points
- 2) Provide additional grant funding for this work
- 3) Gather and provide updated, national data on disparities in the juvenile justice system, and
- 4) Create a toolkit for states to address this issue

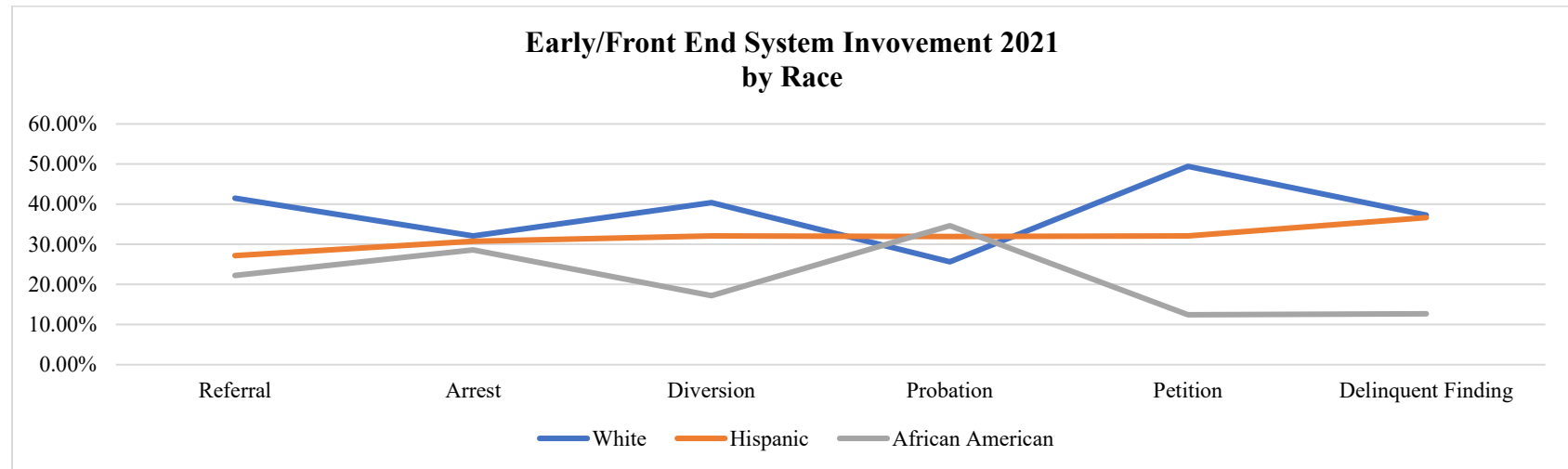
6. What safeguards will you put in place to ensure that as you work to reduce RED, you are protecting the public, holding youth accountable, and equipping youth to live crime free productive lives.

The most powerful thing states can do is to educate. That education needs to be widespread and statewide. Juvenile justice stakeholders need to be educated as well as schools, youth, and families. Education does not mean that youth will no longer be arrested or held accountable for serious violations of the law, but rather the system is treating youth in same manner based on the violation of the law.

OUTCOME BASED EVALUATION - QUESTIONS FROM OJJDP

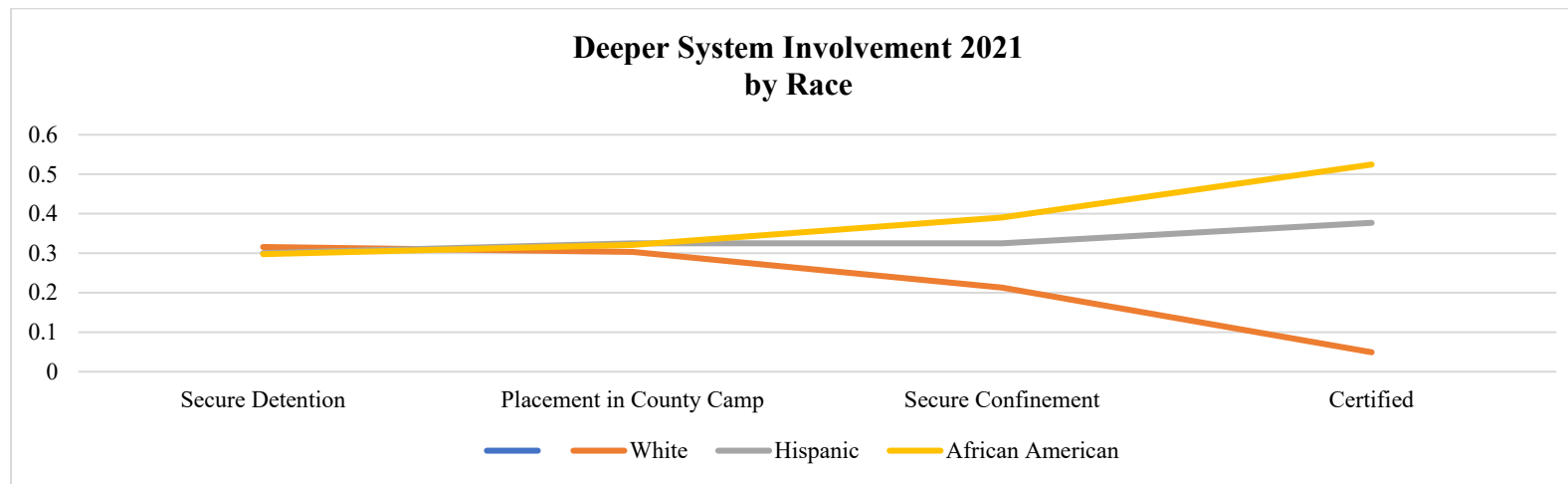
1. What are your new numbers?

The new numbers for 2021 indicates that the overall numbers of youth within the juvenile justice system are down, but that there is disparity in every contact point for African American youth, while White youth are overrepresented at a handful of front-end contact points.



Anything over 35 percent is overrepresentation of White youth, anything under 37 percent is underrepresentation of Hispanic youth, and anything over 3 percent is overrepresentation of African American youth.

Whereas, African American youth are overrepresented throughout the juvenile justice system, the greatest and most significant disparity is at secure confinement (placement with DCFS) and certification.



Separation begins at placement in county camp.

2. Did you meet your goals?

Overall, the state did meet its goals of less youth of color in the system, but this is based more on reduction in referrals than a reduction in disparities. However, African American youth disparity decreased at petition, adjudication, and secure detention.

3. If yes, what worked? What drove the success? If no, what were the barriers? How might you overcome them next year? What partners do you need?

It is unknown what worked or didn't work. But the state has two working theories for the decrease in referrals to the system:

- 1) There was a decrease in referrals from school since schools were closed for part of the year.
- 2) Juvenile assessment centers in Clark County.

A significant drop in referrals is due to the creation of the Harbor, a juvenile assessment center. The Harbor started roughly 4 years ago with one location, but now there are approximately 5 locations in the Las Vegas Valley. The juvenile assessment centers have decreased the number of status

offenders booked into detention and may be a huge factor in the decrease in juvenile referrals to the Clark County Department of Juvenile Services for arrest or other crime related services. Unfortunately, there are no juvenile assessment centers in the other 16 counties that make up Nevada.

4. How can OJJDP help you next year? What do you need from us?

The juvenile assessment center model has worked well in Clark County. However, there are no plans for assessment centers in the remaining part of the state due to lack of funding. Assessment centers require funding. Clark County was able to use old county police stations as buildings, but renovations, technology and staffing requires funds. Grant funds specifically for assessment center creation would be beneficial. Maybe it could be another program area for the Formula Grant.

5. How did youth protect the public, hold juvenile offenders accountable, and equip them to live a crime free life?

There are several ways the state protected the public, held offenders accountable, and equipped them with the tools to not re-offend.

- 1. Data:** Data collection and analysis is the key to decision making. There is no single clearing house for data in the state due to bifurcation, so the state must rely on data sharing agreements and cooperation from local jurisdictions to obtain accurate data. However, the state does not have the capacity or resources to verify the accuracy of data provided.

- 2. Risk and Needs Assessment:**

Risk and Needs Assessment: In early 2018, the JJOC selected the Youth Level of Services/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI) as the statewide risk and needs assessment in accordance with NRS 62B.610(3)(a).

The YLS/CMI is an evidence-based tool that assesses the risk and need areas of a youth and shall guide the service delivery type that is best suited for the individual youth by targeting specific domains of the youth's life that may be contributing to their risk to reoffend. The YLS/CMI is completed before disposition, while a youth is on probation or parole, and while in a correctional facility. This tool shall also inform juvenile justice administrators and the courts on the best options for an individual youth such as level of supervision on parole or selecting the appropriate secure facility if necessary.

Based on DCFS commitment data (secure confinement), the right youth appear to come to the state based on their risk level of high or very high. Some youth with moderate or low risk most likely committed a crime of an egregious nature but have lower risk or reoffending.

There were 191 youths committed to the state between January and December 2021. The average risk and needs score of those youth was 24.38, which falls into the high risk level for both males and females. This data is a good indicator that the right youth are being committed to DCFS.

Outcome of Commitment to DCFS

Average Score At Commitment to DCFS	Average Score at Termination from DCFS	Percent Increase/Decrease
24.38	19.68	19.93% Decrease

Overall, a youth's risk to reoffend drops from high to moderate upon release from DCFS, and ties into item number 4, compliance with evidence-based programs.

- 3. Placement:** The Nevada Revised Statutes were updated in 2017 mandating that specific findings be made by the court before they can send a youth to a state facility (NRS 62E.505). Specifically, the juvenile court must find that alternatives do not exist in the community to satisfy the youth's needs, or those community resources have been unsuccessful; and that the child is a public safety risk based on their risk of reoffending as determined by the risk assessment (YLS/CMI) and their delinquency history. The implementation of the YLS/CMI has only strengthened this law in that most of the youth sent to a state facility are of a high risk/need level that cannot be addressed in the community. Court orders now must address the elements of NRS 62E.505 prior to commitment to a state facility.
- 4. Compliance with Evidence-Based Programs:** All five required facilities, including DCFS correctional facilities and county youth camps, received a quality assurance review in 2021. These reviews utilized the Evidence-Based Correctional Program Checklist (CPC) which is a tool developed by the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute (UCCI) for assessing correctional intervention programs.

The CPC is divided into two basic areas: capacity and content. The capacity area is designed to measure whether a correctional program has the capability to deliver evidence-based interventions and services for offenders. There are three domains in the capacity area including: Program Leadership and Development, Staff Characteristics, and Quality Assurance. The content area includes the Offender Assessment and Treatment Characteristics domains and focuses on the extent to which the program meets certain principles of effective intervention, namely risk, need and responsivity (RNR) principles.

Across these five domains, there are 73 indicators on the CPC, worth up to 79 total points. Each domain, each area, and the overall score are tallied and rated as either Very High Adherence to evidence-based practice (EBP) (65% to 100%), High Adherence to EBP (55% to 64%), Moderate Adherence to EBP (46% to 54%), or Low Adherence to EBP (45% or less). It should be noted that all five domains are not given equal weight, and some items may be considered not applicable in the evaluation process.

The overall average score for 2019 across all five facilities is 48.98 representing moderate adherence to evidence-based programs. It should be noted that this evaluation is based on the ideal program and the higher the total adherence score, the greater the program is able to reduce recidivism. When the program has met a CPC indicator, it is considered a strength of the program. When the program has not met an indicator, it is considered an area in need of improvement. For each indicator in need of improvement, the evaluators construct a recommendation to assist the program's efforts to increase adherence to research and data-driven practices. The JJOC is responsible for overseeing facility improvement plans in relation to these quality assurance reviews.

Evidence-based programs and services are not currently reviewed; however, the counties provide an array of services that may be evidence-based, or evidence informed, as outlined in the *Evidence Based Practice Definition Matrix* of the *FY 19 – 23 Strategic Plan*.

- Keep it Direct and Simple
- What About Marijuana
- Girls Circle
- Forward Thinking
- Wilderness
- Alternatives
- Parents Project
- Arise
- Alcohol and Drug Program
- Botvin Life Skills a
- 3rd Millennium Wise Programming
- Boys Counsel
- Community Services

Performance Measures: The definition of recidivism is: “*A child’s tendency to relapse into a previous condition or mode of behavior after the initial intervention of the Juvenile Justice System.*”

Recidivism rates in Nevada will be measured at various points of a child’s time in the juvenile justice system.

Recidivism rates will be measured when an individual, within 3 years of initial arrest/citation, adjudication, commitment or placement into an out of home facility, placement under probation or parole supervision or when convicted as an adult is

- a) Re-arrested or*
- b) Re-adjudicated or*
- c) Re-committed or*
- d) In violation of supervision or*

e) *Convicted by an adult court.*

This definition is not a one measure definition, but rather a multiple measure definition. It gives the state the leeway to measure recidivism at multiple contact points.

- 1) Arrest versus re-arrest: This data is generated from each county and currently consists of a 12-month lookback. It is anticipated that this lookback will go back 24 months and 36 months soon.

Recidivism Measure 1: 2020 Arrests to 2021 Rearrests
14.17%

- 2) Adjudication versus re-adjudication: This data is generated from each county and currently consists of a 12-month lookback. It is anticipated that this lookback will go back 24 months and 36 months soon.

Recidivism Measure 2: 2020 Adjudications to 2021 Re-adjudications
15.97%

- 3) Commitment versus revocation: This data is generated at the state level and consists of a comparison of youth committed to a DCFS facility, placed on parole, and then recommitted to a DCFS facility.

Commitment Versus Revocation (State Data)

Commitments 2019	Revocations 2019	Commitments 2020	Revocations 2020	Commitments 2021	Revocations 2021	Recidivism Measure 1: Recidivism based on revocations	Recidivism Measure 2: Percentage Increase/Decrease from previous year
207	60	190	50	162	49	2019 → 29.11% 2020 → 28.27% 2021 → 30.25%	2019 → NA 2020 → 2.8% Decrease 2021 → 7% Increase

There is no one measurement of recidivism that can accurately tell the story of youth in the system, unless only one measurement is used. With the current definition of recidivism created by the JJOC, there are many measurements. This report has provided data on a) re-arrests, b) re-adjudications, and c) re-commitments. There is still work to be done to provide data on d) parole violations, and e) conviction in adult court. Parole violations, as with re-arrests and re-adjudications, must be youth specific. But this measurement is extremely complex as one youth may have multiple parole

violations. Currently, the report for this data is not accurate and pending work. Lastly, there is currently no link into the adult judicial system to determine how many youths (certified or direct filed) were convicted.

6. What are your goals for next year?

- 1) To continue to see a decrease in youth of color in the juvenile justice system.
- 2) To continue to seek grant funding for front end services such as juvenile assessment centers.
- 3) To continue to gather and collect data on all aspects of the juvenile justice system to promote informed decision making across the spectrum.